

OBAMACARE SHOWDOWN RESURRECTED

J. WEISMAN
A. PARKER

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WASHINGTON - House Republican leaders - bowing to the demands of their conservative wing - will vote Friday on a stopgap spending measure that would strip all funding from President Barack Obama's signature health care law, increasing the likelihood that the government will shut down in two weeks. House leaders are hoping the vote on the defunding measure will placate con-



Speaker of the House John Boehner, R-Ohio, speaks with reporters following a strategy session at the Capitol, Wednesday, Sept. 18, 2013.
(AP Photo/J. Applewhite)

servatives once the Democratic-controlled Senate rejects it. The House, they are betting, would then pass a stopgap spending measure unencumbered by such policy baggage and shift the argument to the debt ceiling, which must be raised by mid-October if the government is to avoid an economically debilitating default. But publicly, Republican leaders say they are ready for a standoff with the Senate and will not easily give in. "The law's a train wreck," Speaker John A. Boehner said of the health care law, the Affordable Care Act, on Wednesday morning.

Continued on next page



Traders Peter Tuchman and Gregory Rowe have a laugh on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange Wednesday, Sept. 18, 2013.
(AP Photo/Richard Drew)

FOR THE RECORD...

Stock market hits new highs as Fed keeps stimulus

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Rocket trajectory links Syrian military to attack

EDITH M. LEDERER
ZEINA KARAM
Associated Press
BEIRUT (AP)

— The trajectory of the rockets that delivered the nerve agent sarin in last month's deadly attack is among the key evidence linking elite Syrian troops based in the mountains overlooking Damascus to the strike that killed hundreds of people, diplomats and human rights officials said Wednesday. The Aug. 21 attack precipitated the crisis over Syria's chemical weapons. The U.S. threatened a military strike against Syria, which

led to a plan negotiated by Moscow and Washington under which the regime of President Bashar Assad is to abandon its chemical weapons stockpile.

A U.N. report released Monday confirmed that chemical weapons were used in the attack but did not ascribe blame. The United States, Britain and France cited evidence in the report to declare Assad's government responsible.

Russia called the report "one-sided" and says it has "serious reason to sug-



This citizen journalism image provided by The Syrian Revolution against Bashar Assad shows a Syrian military tank on fire during clashes with Free Syrian army fighters in Joubar, a suburb of Damascus, Syria, Wednesday, Sept. 18, 2013.

(AP Photo/The SRABA)

gest that this was a provocation" by the rebels fighting the Assad regime in Syria's civil war.

The report, however, provided data that suggested the chemical-loaded rockets that hit two Damascus

suburbs were fired from the northwest, indicating they came from nearby mountains where the Syrian military is known to have major bases.

Continued on next page

House bill cuts health funds, raising odds of US shutdown



House Speaker John Boehner (R-Ohio) listens to Majority Leader Eric Cantor (R-Va.) at a news conference at the Capitol in Washington, Sept. 18, 2013. House Republican leaders will put to a vote on Friday a stopgap spending measure that would strip all funding from the Affordable Care Act, increasing the likelihood of a government shut down in two weeks.

(Gabriella Demczuk/The New York Times)

Continued from front

"It's time to protect American families from this unworkable law."

The decision to embrace a showdown on the health care law came after months of pushing by conservatives - and resistance by Republican leaders - to link it to the government financing measures that Congress must address this fall.

In March, referring to the push to link funding for the health care law to an increase in the debt limit, Boehner asked: "Do you want to risk the full faith and credit of the U.S. government over Obamacare? That's a very tough argument to make."

Speaking to a national business group on Wednesday, Obama tried to raise the pressure on congressional Republicans, saying that threats of a fiscal default or government shutdown by his political adversaries risk throwing the U.S. economy back into crisis.

Obama accused what he called "a faction" of Republicans in the House of trying to "extort" him by refusing to pass a stop-gap spending measure or raise the nation's debt ceiling unless the president's health care plan is repealed.

"You have never in the history of the United States seen the threat of not raising the debt ceiling to extort a president or a governing party," Obama told the group, the Business Roundtable. "It's irrespon-

sible."

Obama called upon the business leaders to try to persuade lawmakers to avoid the kind of "brinkmanship" that would lead to promises of "apocalypse" every few months.

"What I will not do is to create a habit, a pattern whereby the full faith and credit of the United States ends up being a bargaining chip to make policy," he said.

"I'm tired of it," he added. "And I suspect you are too."

At least for now, the decision by House Republicans to move ahead on a vote to link health care money to a government financing measure has unified them, even as it has divided their Senate counterparts.

"I have not watched our conference so unified as we walk into this battle," said Rep. Kevin McCarthy of California, the House Republican whip.

Senators are not so sure. Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C., called gutting the health care law "a bridge too far" with Democrats in control of the White House and Senate. And, he added: "At the end of the day, a shutdown we own. Like it or not, we're going to own it." For now, House Republicans say they are not pre-

dicting how the standoff will ultimately play out.

The House's stopgap spending measure would fund the government through mid-December at the current spending levels, which reflect the automatic spending cuts that took effect in March, known as sequestration. If that clears the House on Friday, Republican leaders could put forward a bill as soon as next week that would raise the government's statutory borrowing limit. That measure would take aim at the Affordable Care Act as well, with a one-year delay of implementation attached to a raise in the debt ceiling high enough to accommodate a year of borrowing. It would also expedite construction of the transcontinental Keystone XL oil pipeline and set a binding timeline for an overhaul of the entire federal tax code. It could also include a grab bag of other Republican measures, including specific spending cuts and regulatory changes. □

Rocket trajectory links Syrian military to attack

Continued from front

Mount Qassioun, which overlooks Damascus, is home to one of Assad's three residences and is widely used by elite forces to shell suburbs of the capital. The powerful Republican Guard and army's Fourth Division, headed by Assad's younger brother, Maher, has bases there.

A senior U.N. diplomat, speaking on condition of anonymity because some of this material was from private meetings, said: "It was 100 percent clear that the regime used chemical weapons." The diplomat cited five key details, including the scale of the attack, the quality of the sarin, the type of rockets, the warheads used and the rockets' trajectory.

A Human Rights Watch report also said the presumed flight path of the rockets cited by the U.N. inspectors' report led back to a Republican Guard



Syrian President Bashar Assad, left, meets with former U.S. Attorney General Ramsey Clark, in Damascus, Syria, Wednesday, Sept. 18, 2013. Assad received a U.S. delegation of former members of Congress and anti-war activists including Clark.

(AP Photo/SANA)

base in Mount Qassioun.

"Connecting the dots provided by these numbers allows us to see for ourselves where the rockets were likely launched from and who was responsible," said Josh Lyons, a satellite imagery analyst for the New York-based group.

But, he added, the evidence was "not conclusive." The HRW report

matched what several experts concluded after reading the U.N. report. The U.N. inspectors were not instructed to assess which side was responsible for the attack. "While the U.N. stuck within its mandate, it has provided enough data to provide an overwhelming case that this had to be government-sponsored," said Anthony Cordesman,

national security expert at the Center for Strategic and International Studies. The inspectors described the rockets used to disperse the sarin as a variant of an M14 artillery rocket, with either an original or an improvised warhead, which the rebels are not known to have.

There is no conceivable way to prove the rebels could not have gotten them, Cordesman said, but he added that the modification of the rockets pointed to the regime.

The U.N. diplomat in New York pointed to citations in the U.N. report and a private briefing to the U.N. Security Council by chief inspector Ake Sellstrom that reveal the scale of the attack: The seven rockets examined had a total payload of about 350 liters (about 92 gallons) of sarin, including sophisticated stabilizing elements that match those known to be in the Syrian stockpile. □

Q&A ON THE NEWS

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Q: Every time I see John Boehner on TV, he always looks so tanned. No one in Washington keeps a tan like that. Is he a tanning bed junkie?

-- **Donald Varn, Conyers, Ga.**

A: Boehner, the speaker of the House, has said his dark complexion is natural, but it has been a source of jokes in Washington. "I have never been in a tanning bed or used a tanning product," he told The Wall Street Journal in 2010. Boehner said his complexion comes from his mother, and the paper reported that he had the darkest complexion in a picture of high school classmates.

Q: Why doesn't Meredith Vieira still host "Who Wants to be a Millionaire?"

-- **Mary Hallford, Powder Springs, Ga.**

A: Vieira said in January she was stepping away from hosting the syndicated version of "Who Wants to be a Millionaire?" after 11 seasons because she wanted to pursue other opportunities. She filmed episodes of the show through May, and it was announced in July that Vieira would host "The Meredith Vieira Show" on NBC, beginning in September 2014. It will be "a multi-segmented, one-hour daytime show that will blend Meredith's unique point of view, empathy, and sense of humor with insightful storytelling that will make viewers laugh, learn and feel inspired," it states on the NBC website.

Q: When will the new "Doonesbury" cartoons appear in newspapers?

-- **John Williams, Decatur, Ga.**

A: Cartoonist Garry Trudeau has pushed the return of "Doonesbury" to Nov. 18, about 10 weeks past the originally scheduled return of Labor Day, because he has "hit the wall," he said last week in a release. Trudeau has been on sabbatical from the comic strip since June 10 to write and produce "Alpha House," a show that will be available on Amazon.com.

"Doonesbury Flashbacks" have been appearing in papers since Trudeau has been devoting time to the show, and he said that he's burned out in a release from Universal Uclick, his syndicate.

Q: Shouldn't players remove their helmet beanies when the national anthem is played before football games? Plus, what purpose do those beanies serve?

-- **JJ Golden, Peachtree City, Ga.**

A: It is customary for men to remove their hats during the national anthem. Title 4, also known as the Flag Code, and Title 36 of the U.S. Code address the U.S. flag. Section 301 of Title 36 states: "... men not in uniform (military, law enforcement, etc.) should remove their headaddress with their right hand and hold the headaddress at the left shoulder; the hand being over the heart" during the national anthem. Helmet beanies, also known as skull caps, are designed to absorb sweat and keep it from dripping into a player's eyes or down his face during games and practices, according to the manufacturers.

Q: Can car owners disable or remove the black box in their cars?

-- **George Murphy, Woodstock, Ga.**

A: Experts warn against attempting to disable an automobile's black box, or event data recorder (EDR), because it pulls information from so many vital systems. "The data recording function is so thoroughly integrated into a car's electronics that there is no way to completely disable it without also disabling safety features in a way that would violate federal law," a CNN.com article reported. □

House Republicans: No discipline seen in Benghazi attack

ERIC SCHMITT

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WASHINGTON - Senior House Republicans on Wednesday accused the State Department of failing to hold senior officials accountable for security failures that contributed to the attack on the U.S. diplomatic mission in Benghazi, Libya, last year in which four Americans were killed. "No State Department personnel have been fired or even disciplined," said Rep. Ed Royce, R-Calif., who heads the House Foreign Affairs Committee.

underway, and for placing blame on midlevel officials for mistakes they said they believe extend all the way to Hillary Rodham Clinton, who was secretary of state at the time.

The Obama administration and its Democratic allies on Capitol Hill have rejected these criticisms, arguing that the State Department has moved swiftly to carry out 29 recommendations made by an independent review panel in December to improve security and training. They have criticized Republicans as po-

"To me that is serious accountability," Kennedy said. "Reassignment just doesn't cut it," Royce countered. Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, R-Fla., added, "State continues to merely shuffle the deck chairs." More broadly, Kennedy said that despite improvements made by the department in the past several months - including additional Marine Corps security guards and diplomatic security personnel - diplomacy abroad is in an inherently dangerous job. "We will do everything we



Rep. Ed Royce, R-Calif., chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, speaks to Patrick Kennedy, the State Department's undersecretary for management, during a hearing on the 2012 attack on the U.S. diplomatic mission in Benghazi, Libya, in Washington, Sept. 18, 2013. Royce and other Republicans took direct aim at Kennedy, whose office oversees diplomatic security, for what they said was a lack of accountability for the failures the attack revealed.

(Gabriella Demczuk/The New York Times)

"No one has missed a paycheck." Royce's comments opened the first of three hearings this week that the House Republican leadership has scheduled. The congressional scrutiny over the administration's conduct before, during and after the attacks on the mission and a nearby CIA annex on Sept. 11, 2012, has gone on for months.

Republicans have accused the administration of ignoring requests from U.S. diplomats in Libya for additional security in the months before the attack, for failing to launch a military response to blunt the attacks once they were

liticizing the tragedy for partisan gains. At Wednesday's hearing, Royce and other Republicans took direct aim at Patrick F. Kennedy, the undersecretary for management, whose office oversees diplomatic security, for what they said was a lack of accountability at the department for the failures Benghazi revealed. Kennedy responded that the four midlevel State Department officials removed from their posts and placed on administrative leave in December have been reassigned to jobs in which they no longer have "worldwide decision-making authority for security."

can to deter and mitigate the effectiveness of any attack, but we will not, even with willing and capable governments as our partners, stop terrorists or extremists from mounting attacks against us in all cases," Kennedy said.

The independent inquiry into the attack against the Benghazi mission - conducted by a panel called the Accountability Review Board headed by Thomas R. Pickering, a retired senior diplomat - blamed the State Department's Diplomatic Security Bureau and another department office for failing to coordinate and plan adequate security. □

Hagel orders reviews in response to Naval Yard shooting

LOLITA C. BALDOR

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel has ordered two sweeping reviews of military security and employee screening programs, acknowledging Wednesday that "a lot of red flags" may have been missed in the

background of the Washington Navy Yard shooter. Two days after former Navy reservist Aaron Alexis gunned down 12 people in a shooting rampage inside the Navy base, Pentagon leaders struggled with whether a string of minor arrests, mental health issues and other behavioral prob-

lems should have been enough to strip him of his security clearance or deny him access to the secure facility in southeast Washington.

"Obviously, there were a lot of red flags," Hagel told reporters at a Pentagon briefing. "Why they didn't get picked, why they didn't



Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel speaks during a news conference at The Pentagon, Wednesday, Sept. 18, 2013. Hagel is ordering the Pentagon to review the physical security of all U.S. defense facilities worldwide and the security clearances that allow access to them. Hagel ordered the reviews in response to Monday's shooting rampage at the Washington Navy Yard, where a dozen people were killed. The shooter, Aaron Alexis, also was killed.

(AP Photo/Charles Dharapak)

get incorporated into the clearance process, what he was doing, those are all legitimate questions that we're going to be dealing with."

But Gen. Martin Dempsey, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said he still believes that those who have served in the military should not be stigmatized by having to answer questions about their mental health status on security clearance forms.

In recent years, Dempsey and other military leaders had argued that service members — many of whom have been plagued by stress disorders and other problems after multiple deployments in more than a decade of war — should have the opportunity to overcome their mental health challenges without being stigmatized.

He questioned whether forcing Alexis to disclose that he had been undergoing mental health treatments could have prevented Monday's tragedy.

"I don't know what the investigation will determine, but he committed murder," said Dempsey, sitting next to Hagel. "And I'm not sure that any particular question or lack of question on a security clearance would probably have revealed that."

As officials worked to untangle the events surrounding the shooting spree and what may have triggered or enabled it, they continued Wednesday to say that routine security procedures were followed when Alexis used his authorized access card to get onto the base and into Building 197.

They said his checkered Navy career, marred by unauthorized absences and other misconduct, as well as two brushes with the law in Georgia and Texas, were probably not enough to prompt a review of his "secret" level security clearance or prevent him from using that clearance to go onto the base and do his job as an information technology contractor.

A "secret" clearance is held by nearly 4 million people, the government's lowest classified clearance.

Although he had been arrested he was never convicted of any crime. And the fact that he was undergoing mental health treatment also would not affect his status, nor did the most recent incident in Rhode Island when he told police that he could hear voices talking to him through the walls and ceilings of his hotel room. □

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Starbucks seeks to keep guns out of its coffee shops

STEPHANIE STROM

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Tired of being thrust onto the front lines of the nation's debate over guns, Starbucks is asking customers to leave firearms behind when they are in its stores and its outdoor seating areas.

The policy change came on the heels of a shooting rampage at the Washington Naval Yard on Monday that left 13 people, including the gunman, dead, but Starbucks said its decision was not in response to that or to the shooting spree that killed 26 children and adults at the Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Conn., last year.

"I've spent a significant amount of personal time on this issue in the last several months, and I've seen the emotionally charged nature of this issue and how polarizing it is on both sides," Howard Schultz, the chief executive of Starbucks, said in a telephone interview. "Nevertheless, customers in many stores have been jarred and fairly uncomfortable to see guns in our stores, not understanding the issue and feeling that guns should not be part of the Starbucks experience, especially when small kids are around."

Under the change, baristas and other store employees will not ask customers who come in with guns in holsters, say, to leave or confront them in any way, Schultz said. No signs explaining the policy will be posted in Starbucks stores, either.

"We are going to serve them as we would serve anyone else," he said. "There are going to be people on both sides who will be disappointed or angry, but we're making a decision we think is in the

best interests of our customers, employees and the company."

He said store officials would evaluate compliance over time and consider posting signs if necessary.

The majority of company-owned Starbucks stores are in states that allow people to openly carry guns, although restrictions and limitations vary from state to state.

The company has had a handful of armed robberies in its stores over the years, as well as two recent incidents where guns carried in women's purses have discharged accidentally, but little other gun violence in its stores.

Under its previous policy, however, Starbucks has been unwillingly co-opted by proponents of "open carry" policies and vilified by those seeking stricter laws on gun ownership. Garry Trudeau devoted six consecutive days of his Doonesbury comic strip in 2010 to mocking the company's stance, which opened with a barista greeting a customer in a plaid flannel shirt and saying, "Welcome to Starbucks, sir, would you be openly carrying a weapon today?"

"Pro-gun activists have used our stores as a political stage for media events misleadingly called 'Starbucks Appreciation Days' that disingenuously portray Starbucks as a champion of open carry," Schultz wrote in an open letter to be published in ads in major newspapers.

Last month, Starbucks closed a store in Newtown early after gun rights supporters wearing camouflage and Connecticut Citizens Defense League T-shirts held one of the events there. □



Open carry supporters gather outside a Starbucks that closed early in response to their planned event in Newtown, Conn. Starbucks, reversing a policy that had allowed customers to openly carry guns in states that allow it, said Sept. 18, 2013, that will now ask customers not bring firearms into its stores. The company said the policy was not a response to last year's shooting spree at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown.

(Lisa Wiltse/The New York Times)

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Empire State Building IPO plans speed up; buyers flock

JULIE CRESWELL
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NEW YORK - After months of contentious behind-the-scenes battles, the public may finally get its chance to own a piece of a New York City landmark - the Empire State Building.

The real estate family that controls the 102-story Art Deco tower could move ahead as soon as this week with plans to sell shares to the public through a real estate investment trust, or REIT. It could be one of the largest initial public offerings ever of such a trust, in a deal valued at more than \$5 billion.

But even as Malkin Holdings races forward with the planned offering, which includes the iconic tower and 18 other office properties it operates in New York City and in Stamford, Conn., prospective buyers for the Empire State Building continue to come out

of the woodwork.

Last week, Joseph Sitt, a New York City landlord, increased his earlier bid. His company, Thor Equities, is

the building and the lease, for \$1.4 billion in cash. That tops Sitt's offer from earlier this summer, and is higher than the \$1.18 billion that

came in above both the appraised and exchange values in the proposed REIT, that leads me to believe they are taking it very seriously," said Jason Meister, a lawyer with Avison Young who represents Thor Equities.

The offer by Sitt is the latest in a string of unsolicited bids that have been rebuffed by Peter L. Malkin and his son, Anthony E. Malkin, who contend that their plan, which has already been approved by stakeholders, is more valuable. Furthermore, most, if not all, of the bidders have had communications with Richard Edelman, a stakeholder in the Empire State Building who has led a group of dissidents opposed to the planned REIT.

That has led to questions about whether the offers for the building are real or just attempts to derail the initial public offering. One of the "bids" was made

on a single sheet of paper and provided no information about where the buyer would find the money to finance the building's purchase. Additionally, Jason Meister, who represents Sitt at Thor, is the son of Stephen Meister, a lawyer representing some of the dissident shareholders.

This should be a chill-the-Champagne moment for the Malkins.

Family members, who are minority owners of the building, have already won several crucial rounds in a long-running battle with dissident stakeholders. With the public offering, the Malkins would be catapulted into the upper echelons of Manhattan real estate - their stake could be valued at an estimated \$730 million and provide other legal and tax benefits. Anthony Malkin would become chairman of a new company, Empire State Realty Trust. □



The Empire State Building as seen from the 69th floor of the Chrysler Building in New York. After stakeholders that own the 102-story tower voted in favor of a plan to sell it as part of an initial public offering, observers say it's likely that the deal will proceed despite the fact there are still outstanding legal questions swirling around it.

(Todd Heisler/The New York Times)

now proposing to buy Empire State Building Associates, which owns the land,

the entity is valued at as part of the REIT.

"Seeing as this new offer

Port Authority: \$10 WTC name rights sale shameful

DAVID PORTER
Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey on Wednesday called a deal that sold the World Trade Center's name rights to a nonprofit organization for \$10 decades ago "a shameful episode" and vowed to cooperate with an anticipated investigation by New York's attorney general.

A newspaper report this month revealed that the name rights were sold to former Port Authority executive Guy Tozzoli in his role as head of the nonprofit World Trade Centers Association, formed to promote international trade.

The Port Authority, which owns the lower Manhattan land where the Twin Towers stood before Sept. 11, 2001, is among more than 300 worldwide members that pay the WTCA a fee to use the words "World Trade Center."

New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie has criticized the deal.

New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo said he has referred the matter to state Attorney General Eric Schneiderman to determine whether the WTCA "properly acquired from the Port Authority and developed the exclusive rights to the World Trade Center brand" and whether Tozzoli or oth-

ers "improperly received the benefit of such intellectual property without right" at the expense of the Port Authority and taxpayers.

At a Port Authority board meeting on Wednesday, executive director Patrick Foye called the contract "a shameful episode," and board chairman David Samson said it appears "troubling."

But neither could say with specificity who signed off on it.

The Record newspaper, of New Jersey, reported in its initial story on the deal that a board secretary had signed off, and on Wednesday Samson said the original transaction "was ap-

proved by a prior board commissioner." Foye said it was approved by Port Authority officers but not by the full board of commissioners.

Foye added that the Port Authority's executive director at the time of the deal, Stephen Berger, told him he hadn't signed off on it. Samson said he had referred the matter to the Port Authority's audit committee and counsel.

"Just off the surface facts, this appears to be troubling," Samson said. "We're going to take a careful look at it."

The World Trade Center had been standing for more than 15 years by the

time the rights were sold, and the brand already was valuable, Foye noted. Its value has grown exponentially since the Sept. 11 terror attacks.

The Record reported that in exchange for the Port Authority's use of the trademark on merchandise, which the newspaper estimated could bring the Port Authority up to \$28 million annually, the WTCA is requesting free office space worth an estimated \$585,000 per year at the rebuilt World Trade Center site.

Tozzoli died in February, and the WTCA said Wednesday that no one there was available to comment. □

US Financial Front:

Household incomes remain flat despite sunnier economy



People wait in line during the monthly Feed the Need food distribution at the Dyer County fairgrounds in Dyersburg, Tenn. Despite the addition of more than two million jobs last year, soaring corporate profits and continuing economic growth, income for the typical American household did not rise and poverty failed to fall in 2012, new data from the Census Bureau show.

(Luke Sharrett/The New York Times)

ANNIE LOWREY

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WASHINGTON - Despite the addition of more than 2 million jobs last year, soaring corporate profits and continuing economic growth, income for the typical U.S. household did not rise in 2012 and poverty failed to fall, new data from the Census Bureau show.

"The poverty and income numbers are a metaphor for the entire economy," said Ron Haskins of the Brookings Institution. "Everything's on hold, but at a bad level." Over a longer perspective, the figures reveal that the income of the median U.S. household today, adjusted for inflation, is no higher than it was for the equivalent household in the late 1980s. For all but the most highly educated and affluent Americans, incomes have stagnated, or worse, for more than a

decade. The census report found that median household income, adjusted for inflation, was \$51,017 in 2012, down about 9 percent from an inflation-adjusted peak of \$56,080 in 1999, mostly as a result of the longest and most damaging recession since the Depression. Most people have had no gains since the economy hit bottom in 2009. The government's authoritative annual report on incomes, poverty and health insurance, released this week, underscores that the economic recovery has largely failed to reach the poor and the middle class, even as the unemployment rate continues to sink and growth has returned. Government programs remain a lifeline for millions. Unemployment insurance, whose eligibility the federal government expanded in response to

the downturn, kept 1.7 million people out of poverty last year. Food stamps, if counted as income, would have kept out 4 million. Since the recession ended in 2009, income gains have

accrued almost entirely to the top earners, the Census Bureau found. The top 5 percent of earners - households making more than about \$191,000 a year - have recovered their losses and earned about as much in 2012 as they did before the recession. But those in the bottom 80 percent of the income distribution are generally making considerably less than they had been, hit by high rates of unemployment and non-existent wage growth.

Moreover, economists believe that the report understates the degree of income inequality in the U.S., by not including, among other things, earnings from capital gains made on rising stock prices.

In one glimmer of improvement, the number of men working full time year-round with earnings increased by 1 million between 2011 and 2012, to a total of 59 million. Still, the labor market continues to look weak, in particular for less-educated and lower-income men. The labor

force participation rate of men has fallen steadily for the past 60 years. In no small part, that is because the median earnings of men working full time have not increased in real terms since the early 1970s.

For women, the earnings stall started about a decade ago, when the gender pay gap stopped closing. "The wage gap hasn't budged a penny," said Fatima Goss Graves of the National Women's Law Center. "After 11 years of no progress on equal pay, policymakers need to get moving to improve the country's pay discrimination laws, raise the minimum wage and remove the barriers women face in higher-wage jobs."

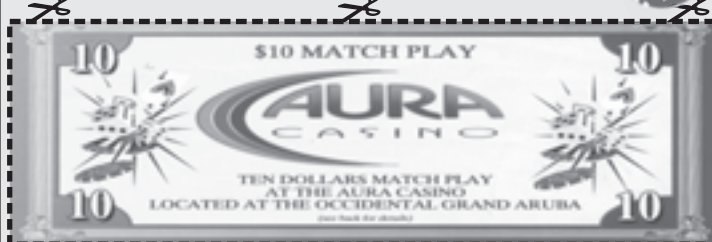
The West was the only region that experienced a statistically significant increase in median income, the Census Bureau said, while all other regions were flat. That most likely reflects the relatively strong growth in Washington, Oregon, California and Utah last year. □

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Italy: Berlusconi insists he will stay in politics

FRANCES D'EMILIO
Associated Press
ROME (AP) — Former Italian Premier Silvio Berlusconi vowed on Wednesday to stay in politics to keep leftists from power in an impassioned appearance shortly before some of his fellow senators dealt him a setback in his battle to keep his Senate seat despite his tax fraud conviction. In a pre-recorded video appearance carried by major Italian TV networks, the media mogul appealed emotionally to Italians to help him invigorate his center-right political movement Forza Italia that propelled him into the premier's office two decades ago. He also insisted in the 16-minute statement that he was "absolutely innocent" of any wrongdoing in the fraud case stemming from the purchase of film rights as well as in the dozens of other criminal proceedings against him during his two decades in politics. The vote by the Senate election eligibility committee to reject a recommendation by one of his party's senators that Berlusconi

keep his seat is only a first step in a complicated process that could stretch out for months before any final action is taken by Parliament's upper house. But while the process drags on, political ten-

gling to ensure the unusual coalition's continuation as he toils to pull the country out of stubborn recession. The committee vote late Wednesday stems from a law Parliament passed last year, banning anyone who

nal tribunal on Aug. 1, carried a four-year prison sentence. The pro-Berlusconi recommendation echoed the strategy by Berlusconi's defense team that Italy's Constitutional Court should evaluate the law mandat-



In this image taken from TV Wednesday Sept. 18, 2013, former Italian premier Silvio Berlusconi makes a 16-minute pre-recorded speech broadcast on major Italian TV networks. Berlusconi insisted he will stay in Italian politics even if his fellow senators strip him of his Senate seat after his tax fraud conviction.

(AP Photo/Mediaset TV)

sions threaten the survival of the Italian government, which includes Berlusconi's center-right forces as senior partner. Center-left leader Premier Enrico Letta is strug-

is sentence to more than two years in prison from holding or serving in office for six years. The tax fraud conviction, upheld by Italy's top crimi-

ing a six-year ban violates citizens' rights. Berlusconi's lawyers have also appealed to the European human rights court in Strasbourg, France. □

Iran releases human rights lawyer, other prisoners

NASSER KARIMI
Associated Press
TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — Iran released a dozen prominent political prisoners, including a human rights lawyer who defended opposition activists and was imprisoned for three years, activists, media and the lawyer's husband said Wednesday. The release of lawyer Nasrin Sotoudeh and the other prisoners comes ahead of a visit next week by Iran's new president to New York to speak at the United Nations. President Hasan Rouhani has said he hopes to

usher in a new era of "increased openness" for the Islamic Republic at home and abroad. The semi-official ISNA news agency and opposition websites reported the release of the prisoners, who had been held on security charges following Iran's disputed 2009 election. Among them is Mohsen Aminzadeh, who was deputy foreign minister during the administration of reform President Mohammad Khatami. "This is a positive move for both inside and outside

(Iran) by the moderate Rouhani," Tehran-based political analyst Soroush Farhadi said. "It is a special message suggesting Iran is ready for more flexibility." In a statement, the International Campaign for Human Rights in Iran welcomed the releases and urged Rouhani to continue to take concrete steps toward improving the country's "urgent human rights situation" ahead of his scheduled U.N. speech on Monday. Sotoudeh, a 49-year-old mother of two, had been

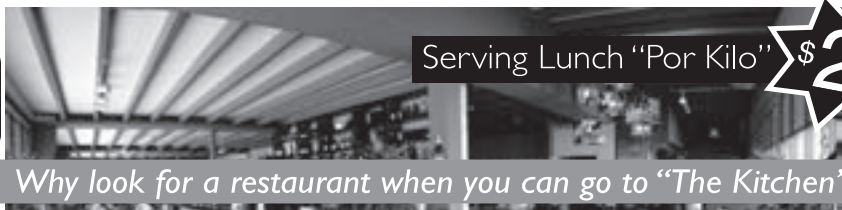
convicted of security offenses and was sentenced to six years in prison after appeals. She began her sentence in September 2010. In March 2011, President Barack Obama called her imprisonment a sign of fear by Iranian authorities. In 2012, the European Union awarded her the Sakharov Prize for Freedom of Thought. Sotoudeh and her family were unaware she was going to be released, her husband Reza Khandan told The Associated Press. □

Egypt's Morsi talks to family for first time

SARAH EL DEEB
Associated Press
CAIRO (AP) — Egypt's ousted president, Mohammed Morsi, told his wife and children he is in good health in his first conversation with his family since the military removed him from office and detained him in a secret location more than two months ago, one of his lawyers said Wednesday. The phone calls were an apparent gesture by the military as authorities prepare to put Morsi on trial on charges of inciting the killing of protesters during his year in office — though no date for the trial has been set. Morsi's legal team has so far not been able to talk to him, said the lawyer, Mostafa Atteyah.

The trial of Egypt's first freely elected president is one link in a wide-scale crackdown on his Muslim Brotherhood that has eviscerated its leadership and much of its crucial mid-level organizers. More than 2,000 jailed Brotherhood members are facing potential prosecution in multiple cases, with at least half a dozen cases already referred to trial. Members of the Brotherhood's legal team say the process so far has been confused and opaque, with their lawyers given little access to their clients or knowledge of the cases against them. Atteyah said they have not been able to attend Morsi's questioning and have not been shown the prosecutors' final case referring Morsi to trial. The Islamist leader has been held almost completely incommunicado in an undisclosed facility since the head of the military ousted him on July 3 in the wake of mass nationwide protests against him. □

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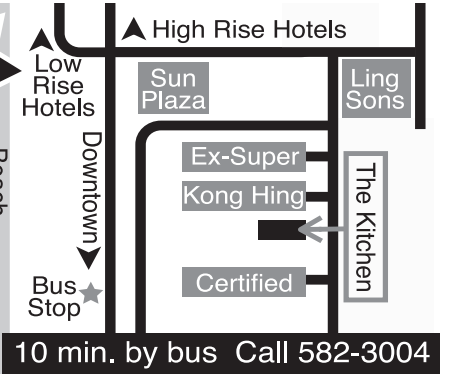


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Calls for debate on Muslim veil mount in Britain

JILL LAWLESS

Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — In Britain this week, a judge struck a blow for religious freedom. Or for secularism. It all depends on whom you ask. Judge Peter Murphy ruled that a female Muslim defendant may stand trial wearing a face-covering veil — but must remove it when giving evidence. The compromise ruling had some insisting it backs a woman's religious right to wear the veil, and others saying it shows British justice remains independent and won't bow to religious demands.

The case has reignited a debate about Muslim veils that has flared across Europe, sparking protests and exacerbating religious tensions in several countries. Those tensions exist in Britain, too, and attacks on Muslims and mosques rose after the May slaying of an off-duty British soldier by Islamist extremists.

But both the court ruling and the interpretations of it suggest that Britain is facing the issue with a streak of pragmatism, and there is little appetite from the center-right coalition government for a ban like that introduced in France.

This is a country where many politicians agree with the aide to former Prime Minister Tony Blair who famously said: "We don't do religion."

"I don't think the government should tell women what they should be wearing," Home Secretary Theresa May, the country's interior minister, said Tuesday. Deputy Prime Minister Nick Clegg agreed: "We shouldn't end up like other countries issuing edicts or laws from Parliament telling people what they should or

should not wear."

The veil has become an emotive issue in European countries that are home to

tal right. Many European countries lean toward the former, while the United States feels strongly about

the latter. As on so many issues, Britain lies somewhere in the middle.

A 2010 Pew Research poll found majority support for banning veils in several European countries, including Britain. The level of support in Britain was lower than in France or Germany, but higher than in the U.S., where a large majority opposed such a ban.

Britain has no government bans on religious symbols. Schools and employers may set dress rules, but are forbidden from discriminating based on religion. Cases that have come to court — such as that of a British Airways staffer barred from wearing a crucifix at work — have usually concluded in favor of religious expression. But tensions have

arisen over the full-face covering worn by a small minority of women among the United Kingdom's 2.7 million Muslims, and viewed by some Britons as a symbol of female oppression or religious fundamentalism.

This week a college in Birmingham, central England, was criticized by some politicians for overturning a ban on full-face veils after protests. A government minister, Jeremy Browne, called for a national debate on whether the state should step in to prevent young women having the veil imposed on them.

Many Muslim women say that view shows a lack of understanding.

"Many people do think we are being forced to wear our scarves. □



In this photo from Monday Sept 16 2013, a Muslim woman, who cannot be named for legal reasons, arrives at Blackfriars Crown Court in London where a judge has ruled that she will be allowed to stand trial while wearing a full-face veil but must remove it while giving evidence. The case has reignited a debate about Muslim veils that has flared across Europe, sparking protests and exacerbating religious tensions in several countries. (AP Photo/ Stefan Rousseau/PA)

visible and growing Muslim populations.

Two years ago France became the first country to ban face-covering veils such as the niqab or burqa anywhere in public. The officially secular nation had already banned Muslim headscarves and other "ostentatious" religious symbols from classrooms.

Belgium has a similar ban, while several other European countries have restrictions in the works. The debate also has erupted in Canada, where the majority French-speaking province of Quebec has proposed banning public servants from wearing showy religious symbols including veils, large Christian crosses and Jewish skullcaps.

The debate exposes the gulf between two differing and sometimes conflicting views — the idea that social cohesion can be imposed by the state, and the idea that freedom of religion is a fundamen-

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Australia's new prime minister sworn into power

ROD McGUIRK
Associated Press

CANBERRA, Australia (AP)

— Tony Abbott was sworn in as Australia's new prime minister on Wednesday and promised immediate action to slow the stream of asylum seekers arriving by boats from Indonesia and to repeal an unpopular carbon tax levied by the previous administration. Abbott was the first of 42 government executives to be sworn in by Governor General Quentin Bryce at a ceremony at Government House in the capital Canberra. He has been criticized for including only one woman in his 19-member Cabinet, Foreign Minister Julie Bishop — although she will be Australia's first woman named to that post. His conservative party defeated former Prime Minister Kevin Rudd's center-left Labor Party in Sept. 7 elections.

"We are determined to honor our commitments to scrap the carbon tax, to stop the boats, to get the budget under control and to build the roads of the 21st century," Abbott told the ceremony, referring to an election pledge to increase spending on road construction.

"We aim to be a calm, measured, steady and purposeful government that says what it means and does what it says," he added.

Abbott's first Cabinet meeting was scheduled for Wednesday after the 90-minute swearing in ceremony.

Abbott also announced that Australia's contentious new policy on asylum seek-



Tony Abbott, left, signs a document as Governor General Quentin Bryce swears in him as the 28th prime minister of Australia at Government House in Canberra, Australia, Wednesday, Sept. 18, 2013.

(AP Photo/Stefan Postles, Pool)

ers that includes turning back their boats to Indonesia would begin immediately after the swearing in ceremony.

Australia has seen an increase in the number of such asylum seekers from Iran, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Vietnam and other countries, many of whom pay smugglers up to \$10,000 to

get them to Australia from Indonesian ports

The incoming government announced on Tuesday that deputy army chief, Maj. Gen. Angus Campbell, had been appointed to lead Australia's new border protection policy, Operation Sovereign Borders. Campbell will be promoted to lieutenant general in

this new role.

The new policy, which has been criticized by Indonesian officials, also includes buying fishing boats from Indonesian villages to prevent them falling into the hands of people smugglers. Australian officials would also pay villages for information about people smugglers under another

controversial aspect to the policy. Acting opposition leader Chris Bowen on Wednesday said the plan would cause problems with the countries' close relationship.

"Mr. Abbott has told us he wants a Jakarta-based foreign policy at the same time as saying to Jakarta we don't care what you think, this is what we're doing," Bowen told Australian Broadcasting Corp. "This is a recipe, frankly, for ongoing problems in relation to boats arriving in Australia — it's (a) recipe for ongoing dispute with Indonesia about this issue."

Also, refugees who arrive by boat will be given temporary protection visas from Wednesday instead of being permanently resettled in Australia.

Abbott plans to make his first international trip as prime minister to Indonesia on Sept. 30 to discuss the plan and other issues.

On energy policy, Abbott plans to order officials to draft legislation that would repeal the carbon tax imposed on the country's biggest greenhouse gas emitters. □

Haiti police raid village over roadside robberies

PETIT-GOAVE, Haiti (AP)

— Haitian police raided a coastal town on Wednesday in efforts to quell a string of roadside robberies that have disrupted the flow of merchandise from the capital to the country's south.

Mayor Sandra Timoleon said that a convoy of specially trained police officers showed up Tuesday

in the coastal town of Petit Goave and arrested four people, while other suspects fled. She said a group of gunmen shot at a police vehicle.

During a second operation on Wednesday, Associated Press journalists saw about another dozen people detained by a special police brigade in the town, about 42 miles (68 kilome-

ters) southwest of Port-au-Prince, Haiti's capital.

Haitian National Police spokesman Gary Desrosiers said he didn't immediately have details on the raid or tally of arrests.

Gunmen have been descending from the hills to set up checkpoints and rob truck drivers and other motorists along National Route 2, the only highway that

connects Port-au-Prince to the southern part of the country.

As the shakedowns continued, callers to radio shows accused local officials of involvement, a claim Timoleon denied.

"The authorities are not involved in this, and we won't accept gang members creating terror," she said by phone. □

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Dutch king: say goodbye to 20th century welfare state

TOBY STERLING
Associated Press

AMSTERDAM (AP) — King Willem-Alexander delivered a message to the Dutch people from the government this week in a nationally televised address: the welfare state of the 20th century is gone.

In its place a "participation society" is emerging, in which people must take responsibility for their own future and create their own social and financial safety nets, with less help from the national government.

The king traveled past waving fans in an ornate horse-drawn carriage to the 13th-century Hall of Knights in The Hague for the monarch's traditional annual address on the day the government presents its budget for the coming year. It was Willem-Alexander's first appearance on the national stage since former Queen Beatrix abdicated in April and he ascended to the throne.

"The shift to a 'participation society' is especially visible in social security and long-term care," the king said, reading out to lawmakers a speech written for him by Prime Minister Mark Rutte's government.

"The classic welfare state of the second half of the 20th century in these areas in particular brought forth arrangements that are unsustainable in their current form."

Rutte may be hoping that the pomp and ceremony surrounding the king and his popular wife, Queen Maxima, will provide a diversion from the gloomy reality of a budget full of unpopular new spending cuts he revealed later in the day.

A series of recent polls have shown that confidence in Rutte's government is at record low levels, and

that most Dutch people — along with labor unions, employers' associations and many economists — believe the Cabinet's austerity policies are at least partially to blame as the Dutch economy has wors-

restoring confidence." Willem-Alexander said that nowadays, people expect and "want to make their own choices, to arrange their own lives, and take care of each other." The 'participation society'

The monarchy was not immune to cost-cutting and Willem-Alexander's salary will be cut from around 825,000 euros (\$1.1 million) this year to 817,000 euros in 2014. Maintaining the Royal House — castles, parades

Germany's Angela Merkel, in insisting that Southern European countries attempt to meet that target.

Among other measures, the government announced 2,300 new military job cuts. That follows a 2011 decision



Netherlands' King Willem-Alexander and his wife Queen Maxima wave to well wishers from the balcony of Noordeinde Palace, after the King officially opened the new parliamentary year with a speech outlining the government's plan and budget policies for the year ahead in The Hague, Netherlands.

(AP Photo/Peter Dejong)

ened even as recoveries are underway in neighboring Germany, France and Britain. After several consecutive years of government spending cuts, the Dutch economy is expected to have shrunk by more than 1 percent in 2013, and the agency is forecasting growth of just 0.5 percent next year.

"The necessary reforms take time and demand perseverance," the king said. But they will "lay the basis for creating jobs and

has been on its way for some time: benefits such as unemployment compensation and subsidies on health care have been regularly pruned for the past decade. The retirement age has been raised to 67.

The king said Tuesday some costs for the care of the elderly, for youth services, and for job retraining after layoffs will now be pushed back to the local level, in order to make them better tailored to local circumstances.

and all — costs the government around 40 million euros annually.

A review of the government's budget by the country's independent analysis agency showed that the deficit will widen in 2014 to 3.3 percent of GDP despite the new spending cuts intended to reduce it. Eurozone rules specify that countries must keep their deficit below 3 percent, and Rutte has been among the most prominent of European leaders, along with

to cut 12,000 jobs — one out of every six defense employees — between 2012 and 2015.

The program has suffered cost overruns and created divisions within Rutte's governing coalition.

A debate over the budget later this week will be crucial for the future of the coalition, as it does not command a majority in the upper house, and it must seek help from opposition parties to have the budget approved.

Anti-fascist protests across Greece turn violent



Protesters run in the street as they clash with police in Thessaloniki, Greece Wednesday, Sept. 18, 2013.

(AP Photo/Nikolas Giakoumidis)

ELENA BECATOROS

Associated Press

KERATSINI, Greece (AP)

— Violent clashes broke out in several Greek cities Wednesday after a musician described as an anti-fascist activist was stabbed to death by a man who said he belonged to the

far-right Golden Dawn party. More than 75 people were detained. The death of Pavlos Fyssas, 34, drew condemnation from across Greece's political spectrum and from abroad. While the extremist Golden Dawn has been blamed for numerous violent attacks

in the past, the overnight stabbing is the most serious violence so far directly attributed to a member. Golden Dawn leader Nicholas Michaloliakos denied that the party had anything to do with the attack. Fyssas, a hip-hop singer whose stage name was

Killah P, died in a state hospital early Wednesday after being stabbed twice outside a cafe in the Keratsini area west of Athens. Police said a 45-year-old man arrested at the scene admitted to attacking Fyssas and said he belonged to Golden Dawn. A knife with traces of blood was found near his car. Clashes broke out Wednesday evening between riot police and thousands of protesters holding anti-fascist demonstrations in Fyssas' memory in Keratsini and another five cities. In Keratsini, violence broke out near the scene of the stabbing, with hundreds of protesters attacking a nearby police station. The confrontation lasted more than two hours, with riot police using tear gas to repel youths, who set fire to trash bins and smashed up sidewalks with hammers to throw rocks at police. □

EU: financial benchmarks to be regulated

JUERGEN BAETZ

Associated Press

BRUSSELS (AP) — The European Union wants to regulate financial benchmarks that are used in transactions worth trillions of dollars globally, an effort to prevent market manipulations such as the one involving LIBOR, an interest rate banks use to borrow from each other. The European Commission, the executive arm of the 28-nation European Union, on Wednesday unveiled draft legislation that tightens the financial instruments' oversight, increases transparency and introduces stiff fines for manipulations.

Under the proposal, national regulators and a coordinating European body are granted new powers to investigate possible rigging or conflicts of interests and can issue fines of up to 10 percent of a firm's revenue.

The London interbank offered rate, or LIBOR, is an average rate that measures how much banks expect to pay each other for loans. It underpins trillions of dollars (euros) in contracts around the world, including mortgages, bonds and consumer loans. As a result, its manipulation can cause significant losses to consumers and investors and distort the real economy. "Market confidence has been undermined by scandals and allegations of benchmark manipulation," said EU Commissioner Michel Barnier, who is in charge of financial services. "Some banks lied about the going interest rates by manipulating the index," he added. "Today's proposals will ensure for the first time that all benchmark providers have to be authorized and supervised; they will enhance transparency and tackle conflicts of interests," he added.

The LIBOR scandal emerged last year when authorities realized banks — including Royal Bank of Scotland. □

Irish anti-austerity protesters clash with police

S. POGATCHNIK

Associated Press

DUBLIN (AP)

— Hundreds of hard-line protesters opposed to Ireland's ongoing austerity program clashed with police and snarled rush-hour traffic in Dublin with a surprise seizure of a key bridge Wednesday. The trouble on O'Connell Street, Dublin's major thoroughfare, and fighting with police outside the entrance to Ireland's parliament building reflected the rising divisions — both within the government and on the streets — over plans to continue with a five-year austerity program. Police pinned down or pepper-sprayed several demonstrators as they tried to push their way through steel barricades and towards the parliament entrance, where politicians were arriving for their first debating session following a two-month summer recess.

Ireland's government on Oct. 15 is committed to unveiling a 2014 budget featuring 3.1 billion euros (\$4 billion) in new cuts and tax

hikes. The Irish already have endured five years of austerity following the collapse of their credit-driven Celtic Tiger boom in 2008. But economists and government ministers are publicly divided over whether those 2014 cuts go too far, given Ireland's better-than-expected economic performance following its 2010 bailout by the European Union, European Central

Bank and International Monetary Fund. That so-called troika of international creditors three years ago provided Ireland loans worth 67.5 billion euros (\$90 billion) when the colossal bill of Ireland's bank-rescue program overwhelmed the government's own ability to keep financing its debts. The EU-IMF fund is running out by the end of the

year, by which time Ireland hopes to resume affordable borrowing on bond markets. But many Irish believe they've already lost too much income and benefits to finance a bank-rescue program expected to cost Irish taxpayers close to 70 billion pounds, or nearly 20,000 euros (\$26,000) for every man, woman and child in Ireland. □



Police hold a line of barriers as protestors gather outside the government in Dublin, as politicians return after the summer recess, Wednesday Sept. 18, 2013.

(AP Photo / Niall Carson, PA)



Ruth's Chris Aruba Receives 2013 Wine Spectator Award Of Excellence

PALM BEACH - Recently Ruth's Chris Steak House Aruba received the 2013 Wine Spectator "Awards of Excellence" Award.

The Wine Spectator Award of Excellence is handed to restaurants worldwide that offer a list with a well-chosen selection of quality producers, along with a thematic match to the restaurant menu in both price and style.

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Situated on the ground level of the Aruba Marriott, Ruth's Chris Steak House is open seven days a week, from 5:30 to 11 pm offering New Orleans-inspired appetizers, the finest U.S. Prime steaks, fresh seafood and classic desserts will be served with Caribbean charm and elegance.

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low the sizzle to Ruth's Chris Steak House. For information and reservations, visit www.RuthsChris.com or call 520-6225. □

Carmine & Vera honored at the Radisson Aruba Resort

PALM BEACH - Recently, Carmine & Vera from New Jersey were honored as Distinguished Visitors after returning to Aruba for 15 years consecutive. The

symbolic honorary title is presented in the name of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation to guests who visit Aruba for between 10-and-20 years

consecutive. Mr. Ricardo Croes representing Aruba Tourism Authority conducted the ceremony at the Radisson

Aruba Resort together with Carmine & Vera and other hotel Reps. Top reasons for returning provided by the honorees are they consider

Aruba to be the "Happy Island", the great weather, Friendly Aruban Hospitality, white sand beaches and the local food. □



Resort Housekeepers Are Proud To Make A Difference



PALM BEACH - An entire week of activities, social events and well-deserved praise helped round out another successful House-

keepers Week at the Playa Linda Beach Resort. This year's celebration was dedicated to Playa Linda Housekeeper Cecilia Char-

less, who has been on the job since February 1990 and continues to carry out daily duties with a smile. Many members of the Housekeeping staff are among the resort's most dedicated and longest-serving employees, with decades on the job, proving that they are indeed "Proud to Make a Difference". Housekeepers wore t-shirts, emblazoned with that very statement, as they launched Housekeeping Week last week, with a mass given by Juancho Pilongo. During the opening ceremony, Executive Housekeeper Ingrid Todd, who herself marked 30 years of service with the resort this year, remarked that she is proud of the entire Housekeeping team and thanked them for their hard work and excellent performance levels. Each day of Housekeeping Week featured a different activity, with events including a motivational lecture by Shaira Kock, a donation to the SABA Elderly Home, and a relaxing day at the beach at The Palm Island.



A group of sixteen housekeepers even chose to use their own funds to spend their day off together with a trip to Curacao. On the final evening, Housekeepers were treated to dinner out at Tango restaurant. The close camaraderie shared among Playa Linda's Housekeeping staff

was on vibrant display at each Housekeeping Week get-together, with each event marked by easy smiles and high spirits. For their positive attitudes and excellent work ethic, congratulations go to each member of Playa Linda's remarkable Housekeeping team! □

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Housekeeping Week Celebrated at the Radisson Aruba Resort Casino & Spa



PALM BEACH - The department of Human Resources festively inaugurated the fully renovated Star Cafeteria, which now boasts an attractive canopied entrance. Associates arriving for an afternoon pick-me-up at the Star Cafeteria were greeted with a special filled to the brim to-go coffee mug, in partnership with Dunkin' Donuts who

also supplied the tasty treats. The traditional side-splitting Bed Making Contest took place that same day in the Grand Caribbean Ballroom, where the scene was purely comical, as members of the Executive Committee fumbled and bungled, attempting to deliver flawless beds with perfectly tucked and folded sheets, pillows and blan-

kets in under 2 minutes, in accordance with the resort's standards. General Manager Mark Lyttleton-Frances followed the age-old wisdom of the saying: You've made your bed now lie in it, and proceeded to also test all other beds made by his executives, which provoked great laughter among members of the resort housekeeping depart-

ment, followed by valuable words of advice for the hotelier: Judging from your bed making skills, don't quit your day job, yet. Housekeeping Week at the resort celebrated the many tremendous contributions of these back-of-the-house unsung heroes with a series of fun after work activities, enjoyed by all. □

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More than \$10M on line at Tour Championship

DOUG FERGUSON

AP Golf Writer

ATLANTA (AP) — No matter what happens at the Tour Championship, Tiger Woods is assured of being No. 1 in the world and No. 1 on the PGA Tour money list. Everything else is up for grabs.

Woods has five wins this year, and no one else has more than two. Even so, the parity among top players this year is illustrated by how many of them have something to play for at East Lake when the Tour Championship gets underway Thursday.

And it's more than just the FedEx Cup and its \$10 million bonus.

"Two trophies here this week, and also potentially throwing my name in a player of the year debate, which I think is quite a prestigious honor amongst the company that I play golf against," Masters champion Adam Scott said.



Tiger Woods prepares on the first tee for the final round of the BMW Championship golf tournament at Conway Farms Golf Club in Lake Forest, Ill., Monday, Sept. 16, 2013.

Associated Press

The two trophies are the Tour Championship and the FedEx Cup, and they have gone to the same player four out of seven years.

Woods already is assured of winning the Arnold Palmer Award for leading the money list, which will be the 10th time in his career. He appears set to win the Vardon Trophy for the lowest adjusted scoring average. Going into East Lake, his scoring average of 68.87 is slightly ahead of Steve Stricker (69.02).

This is one time when figuring out who wins the FedEx Cup — with a reset of points and all the projections — will be easier than predicting the player of the year. "Well, I'd like to get a sixth win, how about that?" Woods said. A victory would indeed give Woods six this year, including two World Golf Championships, The Players Championship and the Tour Championship, along with the FedEx

Cup. That would make it a fairly simple choice and allow players to overlook no majors when casting their votes.

Scott not only has a green jacket, he won the opening playoff event at The Barclays. He could make a strong case with three wins — all against strong fields — a major and the FedEx Cup. Phil Mickelson has a claret jug from the British Open, where he produced one of the greatest final rounds in major championship history. He won the Phoenix Open this year after coming within a fraction of an inch of shooting 59. He could bring the same credentials as Scott if he were to win the Tour Championship, boosted by having been a runner-up at the U.S. Open and the sentimental factor of having never won player of the year.

Continued on page 22

Former heavyweight champion Ken Norton dies

TIM DAHLBERG

AP Boxing Writer

LAS VEGAS (AP) — Former heavyweight champion Ken Norton, who beat Muhammad Ali and then lost a controversial decision to him in Yankee Stadium, died Wednesday at a local care facility, his son said. He was 70.

Norton had been in poor health for the last several years after suffering a series of strokes, a friend of the fighter said.

"He's been fighting the battle for two years," said Gene Kilroy, Ali's former business manager.

"I'm sure he's in heaven now with all the great fighters. I'd like to hear that conversation."

Norton broke Ali's jaw in

their first bout, beating him by split decision in 1973 in a non-title fight in San Diego. They fought six months later, and Ali narrowly won a split decision.

They met for a third time on Sept. 28, 1976, at Yankee Stadium in New York and Ali narrowly won to keep his heavyweight title.

Norton won a heavyweight title eliminator the following year and was declared champion by the World Boxing Council.

But on June 9, 1978, he lost a bruising 15-round fight to Larry Holmes in what many regard as one of boxing's epic heavyweight bouts and would never be champion again.

Norton finished with a re-

cord of 42-7-1 and 33 knockouts.

He would later embark on an acting career, appearing in several movies, and was a commentator at fights.

Norton lost only once in his early fights but had fought few fighters of any note when he was selected to meet Ali.

At the time, Ali was campaigning to try to win back the heavyweight crown he lost to Joe Frazier in 1973.

Few gave Norton much of a chance against Ali in the 1973 fight in San Diego, but his awkward style and close-in pressing tactics confused Ali and the win put him in the top echelon of heavyweight fighters. □



In this Sept. 10, 1973, file photo, Muhammad Ali, right, winces as Ken Norton hits him with a left to the head during their re-match at the Forum in Inglewood, Calif. Norton, a former heavyweight champion, has died, his son said, Wednesday, Sept. 18, 2013. He was 70.

Associated Press

Kiwis close within 1 win of America's Cup

BERNIE WILSON

AP Sports Write

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — The America's Cup is staying in America for at least one more day, thanks to the wind and tide on San Francisco Bay.

Not long after Emirates Team New Zealand reached match point Wednesday against powerhouse Oracle Team USA, Race 12 was postponed because the wind blowing in through the Golden Gate Bridge exceeded the limit.

The 72-foot catamarans had just crossed the start line with Kiwi skipper Dean Barker holding a big advantage over rival Jimmy Spithill before Race 12 was scrubbed.

Organizers will try again on Thursday to get in two races, if necessary. Two races were postponed on Tuesday because of strong wind blowing against a big

ebb tide.

The wind limit of 23 knots was reduced to 19.9 knots for Race 12 because of an ebb tide of 3.1 knots flowing out of San Francisco Bay. The wind peaked at 21.5 knots just before the start.

The wind limit was reduced from 33 knots to 23 knots as one of 37 safety recommendations made after British double Olympic medalist Andrew "Bart" Simpson was killed in the capsizing of Artemis Racing's catamaran on May 9. The wind limit is affected by the day's tide.

Barker and the rest of the New Zealand crew won Race 11 by 15 seconds earlier Wednesday to move to the brink of taking the oldest trophy in international sports.

Team New Zealand leads 8-1. Oracle Team USA, owned by software tycoon Larry Ellison of Oracle Corp.,

was docked two points going into the match following the biggest cheating scandal in the 162-year history of the America's Cup. Barker controlled Spithill at the start and led the whole way, building his lead on the crucial upwind third leg toward the Golden Gate Bridge.

Oracle had been sailing better on the course's only upwind leg but couldn't quite reel in the New Zealanders on Wednesday. Team New Zealand led by 6 seconds at the second gate mark and extended it to 17 seconds at the third gate as it rounded back onto the downwind leg.

The Kiwis watched their lead of about 200 meters shrink to around 70 meters as the boats raced downwind on their foils, their hulls completely out of the water.

Neither crew had a good rounding of the fourth gate,



Emirates Team New Zealand crew celebrates after defeating Oracle Team USA at the end of the 11th race of the America's Cup sailing event Wednesday, Sept. 18, 2013, in San Francisco. Associated Press

yet the Kiwis sprinted first down the final reaching leg to the finish off America's Cup Park on Pier 27-29. As usual, there were hundreds of flag-waving New Zealanders cheering them on. The race began in about 17 knots of wind blowing against a 2-knot ebb tide. Barker was at the helm in 2003 when hard-luck Team New Zealand was swept

in five races by its former skipper, Russell Coutts, and Alinghi of Switzerland. The Kiwis had to drop out of two races with breakdowns.

Three years earlier, after Coutts had delivered Team New Zealand to a 4-0 lead over Italy's Luna Rossa, he handed the wheel to Barker for the final race, which the New Zealanders easily won. □

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AL Capsules

Rangers beat Rays to end 7-game skid

The Associated Press
ST. PETERSBURG, Florida (AP) — Ian Kinsler and Elvis Andrus homered and drove in three runs each as the Texas Rangers snapped a seven-game losing streak with a 7-1 victory over the Tampa Bay Rays on Tuesday.

The Rangers pulled even with the Rays at the top of the AL wild-card race.

The Rangers, who held the No. 1 wild-card spot or the AL West lead for most of the summer, won for only the fourth time in 17 games. Kinsler hit Jeremy Hellickson's first pitch for his 12th home run, breaking a streak of seven homerless games for the Rangers, their longest in 23 years. The 1-0 lead marked the first time Texas has led in a game since its last victory, on Sept. 8.

Kinsler added a two-run single in the Rangers' four-run third, driving in three runs on the first two pitches he saw from Hellickson (11-9). Andrus followed with his third home run of the season to put the Rangers up 5-0.

Alexi Ogando (7-4) won in his first start since Aug. 13, giving up two hits in five innings.

ORIOLES 3, RED SOX 2

Danny Valencia tripled to stop closer Koji Uehara's streak of 37 consecutive outs and pinch-runner Alexi Casilla scored on Matt Wieters' sacrifice fly in the ninth inning to lift Baltimore over Boston.

The Orioles overcame a 2-0 deficit on Brian Rob-

erts' run-scoring groundout in the fifth and Chris Davis' 51st homer of the season in the sixth that tied the score 2-2. Davis broke the club record set by Brady Anderson in 1996.

Uehara (4-1) fell four outs short of Bobby Jenks' major league record for a reliever of 41 consecutive retired batters set in 2007 and Mark Buehrle's mark for all pitchers of 45 in 2009. The run was the first off Uehara in 30 2-3 innings and ended a streak of 27 scoreless outings since July 9.

TIGERS 6, MARINERS 2

DETROIT (AP) — Miguel Cabrera homered, Austin Jackson hit a two-run single as Detroit held off Seattle despite a short-handed bullpen.

The AL Central-leading Tigers were ahead 3-2 when they escaped a bases-loaded jam in the eighth while playing without closer Joaquin Benoit and left-handed reliever Drew Smyly. They were both given the night off.

Anibal Sanchez struck out 10 in 6 1-3 innings, but the Mariners tied it at 2 against him in the seventh, forcing Detroit's relievers into action.

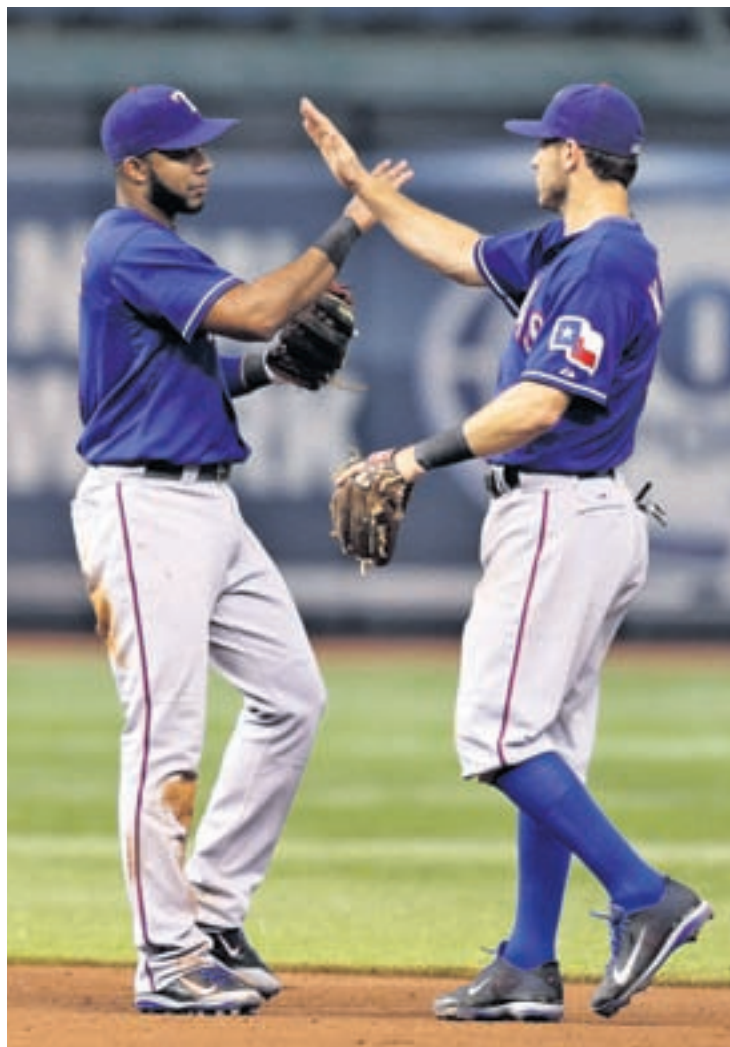
Albuquerque (3-3) got out of the seventh, and Phil Coke and Jose Alvarez made it through a dodgy eighth.

Alvarez got two outs in the ninth, and Jose Veras finished.

Yoervis Medina (4-6) took the loss.

BLUE JAYS 2, YANKEES 0

TORONTO (AP) — R.A. Dick-



Texas Rangers shortstop Elvis Andrus, left, and second baseman Ian Kinsler celebrate after the team defeated the Tampa Bay Rays 7-1 during a baseball game Tuesday, Sept. 17, 2013, in St. Petersburg, Fla.

Associated Press

ey pitched seven innings to win his fourth straight decision, Colby Rasmus and Rajai Davis homered as Toronto handed slumping New York its fourth straight loss.

The Yankees came in 2½ games behind Texas in the AL wild card race and lost for the eighth time in 12 games. The Yankees have 11 games remaining.

Dickey (13-12) allowed

four hits, walked two and struck out eight. The knuckleballer retired the final 11 batters he faced and 15 of the last 16.

Dickey has not lost since the Yankees beat him in the Bronx on Aug. 21. He's 4-0 with a 2.73 ERA in five starts since.

Sergio Santos pitched the eighth and Casey Janssen finished in the ninth for his 31st save in 33 chances.

INDIANS 5, ROYALS 3

KANSAS CITY, Missouri (AP) — Asdrubal Cabrera drove in the go-ahead run in the eighth inning as Cleveland rallied against Kansas City's stingy bullpen to remain a half-game behind Texas and Tampa Bay in the AL wild-card race.

The Indians were shut out until the sixth by Yordano Ventura, who made an electric major league debut. They tied the game 3-all in the seventh off reliever Kelvin Herrera, and Cabrera's double off Wade Davis (7-11) in the eighth scored Drew Stubbs and gave Cleveland the lead.

Michael Bourn added a homer in the ninth to provide a cushion.

Meanwhile, Cody Allen (6-1) was among six Indians relievers who kept Kansas City off the scoreboard the final 4 1-3 innings. Chris Perez handled a perfect ninth for his 25th save.

The Royals are 3½ games adrift in the wild-card race.

ATHLETICS 2, ANGELS 1

OAKLAND, California (AP) — Josh Donaldson hit a game-winning, bases-loaded single with two outs in the ninth inning as Oakland beat Los Angeles to decrease its magic number to clinch another AL West title to six.

Donaldson delivered his third career game-ending hit — all this season — in Oakland's eighth walkoff victory this year.

Grant Balfour (1-3) struck out the side in order in the ninth for the win. □

Wondolowski helps Earthquakes past Impact 3-0

SANTA CLARA, California (AP) — Chris Wondolowski, Marvin Chavez and Shea Salinas scored to lead the San Jose Earthquakes to a 3-0 victory over the Montreal Impact in group play of the CONCACAF Champions League on Tuesday. San Jose remained alive in Group 5 with the resounding victory, but the Earth-

quakes need help from the Impact to advance. Group leaders Heredia can clinch the top spot and the only berth in the knockout round with a draw or win in Montreal next Tuesday. That would make the Guatemalans' trip to San Jose on Oct. 23 meaningless. The Impact's hopes are also still alive, but just bare-

ly. They need a convincing win over Heredia next week in their last group match, and then a narrow win by San Jose against Heredia. Sporting KC draws Real Esteli 1-1.

KANSAS CITY, Kansas (AP) — Jacob Peterson scored in the 78th minute to earn Sporting Kansas City a 1-1 draw with Nicaragua's Real

Esteli in the group stage of the CONCACAF Champions League on Tuesday.

Real Esteli, which remains winless in 35 CONCACAF matches across all tournament formats, opened the scoring in the 54th minute with Rudel Calero's header off a Samuel Wilson.

Peterson's equalizer came after a low corner to the

near post from Graham Zusi. The substitute collected the ball near the goalmouth and put it between goalkeeper Justo Lorente's legs.

Sporting leads Group 2 with seven points through three matches and closes out the group stage against Honduras' CD Olimpia on Oct. 23. □

NL Capsules

Surging Nationals sweep Braves in doubleheader

The Associated Press
WASHINGTON (AP) — Tanner Roark threw seven shut-out innings as the Washington Nationals beat the Atlanta Braves 4-0 to sweep a day-night doubleheader Tuesday, ensuring the Braves leave Washington without the NL East title. Roark (7-0) allowed just two hits, struck out six and retired the final 13 batters he faced.

Ryan Zimmerman hit a home run, Ian Desmond an RBI double and Adam LaRoche an RBI single in the eighth inning. Steve Lomardozzi had a second-inning RBI single off Freddy Garcia (1-2).

Washington entered the nightcap, which followed the Nationals' 6-5 win in the makeup of a series opener postponed by a shooting rampage a day earlier at the nearby Navy Yard, within 4½ games of Cincinnati for the NL's second wild-card berth. The Nationals, who have won 10 of 11, have 11 games remaining.

Craig Kimbrel had converted 37 consecutive save chances since early May, and Andrelin Simmons began the day with the second-best fielding percentage among National League shortstops. But they conspired to blow a three-run lead in the ninth inning of the first game.

Kimbrel (3-3), who leads the major leagues with 47 saves, blew a save chance for just the fourth time this season.

CARDINALS 11, ROCKIES 4
DENVER (AP) — Matt Holliday had four hits, including a two-run homer, to help St. Louis take over sole possession of the NL Central lead.

The Cardinals entered the night tied with Pittsburgh, which lost 5-2 at home to San Diego. St. Louis reduced its magic number for clinching a playoff spot to five with 11 games remaining.

Joe Kelly (9-4) allowed three hits over five sharp innings before turning a 10-0 lead over to the bullpen.

Juan Nicasio (8-8) lasted



Atlanta Braves catcher Gerald Laird holds the ball up as home plate umpire Jordan Baker calls Washington Nationals' Denard Span is out at home on the tag, during the third inning of the second MLB National League baseball doubleheader at Nationals Park Tuesday, Sept. 17, 2013, in Washington. Associated Press

just 2 2-3 innings and allowing eight runs, which tied a career high.

Holliday led an 18-hit night by the Cardinals, who had seven players with at least two hits. Holliday finished 4 for 4 with a walk, double and two-run homer against his former team. He drove in three runs and scored twice.

The Cardinals ran away with the game in the third when they sent 11 batters to the plate and scored six times. Daniel Descalso had a two-run triple in the inning, while Holliday added a double and an RBI single. Colorado's Michael Cud-dyer finished 2 for 3 with a walk and an RBI to raise his average to .331, which is tops in the NL.

PADRES 5, PIRATES 2

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Jedd Gyorko blasted a three-run homer among his three hits for San Diego.

Ronny Cedeno added three hits for San Diego, which beat the Pirates for the second straight game and dropped Pittsburgh one game behind St. Louis in the NL Central. The Cardinals beat the Rockies 11-4.

Luke Gregerson worked the ninth for his fourth save. Eric Stults (9-13) allowed two runs over five innings to pick up his first win in more than two months. Stults struck out five and walked one.

Andrew McCutchen went

2 for 3 and Marlon Byrd drove in both of Pittsburgh's runs.

Jeff Locke (10-6) allowed four runs and seven hits in five innings, striking out five and walking three.

DODGERS 9, DIAMONDBACKS 3

PHOENIX (AP) — Juan Uribe and Adrian Gonzalez homered and Zack Greinke pitched six strong innings as Los Angeles inched closer to clinching the NL West title.

One day after coming off the disabled list, Matt Kemp went 4 for 4 with two doubles and three RBIs.

The Dodgers, who once languished in last place 9½ games out, snapped a four-game skid and can clinch the division title by beating Arizona on Wednesday night.

Greinke (15-3) allowed two runs and six hits in six innings to improve to 7-0 in his last nine starts.

Patrick Corbin (14-7) gave up six runs and seven hits in two innings plus three batters, his shortest outing of the year. After starting the season 12-1, Corbin is 2-6 in his last 10 starts.

Aaron Hill hit a solo home run for the Diamondbacks. Hanley Ramirez, who had missed the Dodgers' previous four games with a sore back, reached base four times with a single and three walks and scored three runs.

PHILLIES 6, MARLINS 4

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Chase Utley hit a three-run homer and drove in four runs and Roy Halladay tossed six effective innings for Philadelphia.

Halladay (4-4) allowed one run and four hits in his fifth start after returning from right shoulder surgery. The two-time Cy Young Award winner didn't top 88 mph

and relied on guile to get outs.

The top three hitters in Philadelphia's lineup — Cesar Hernandez, Jimmy Rollins and Utley — were 8 for 12 with four RBIs and six runs.

Jonathan Papelbon allowed an RBI single to Giancarlo Stanton before finishing for his 28th save in 35 chances.

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SUN & HOL. 2:10 | 4:35 | 7:00 | 9:25

The WORLD'S END
SIMON PEGG | NICK FROST
MON - THURS 4:20 | 6:50 | 9:20
FRI 4:20 | 6:50 | 9:20 | 11:50
SAT 1:55 | 4:20 | 6:50 | 9:20 | 11:50
SUN & HOL. 1:55 | 4:20 | 6:50 | 9:20

INSIDIOUS 2
CHAPTER 2
PATRICK WILSON | ROSE BYRNE
MON - THURS 8:30
FRI - SAT 8:30 | 10:50
SUN & HOL. 8:30 PG-13
MON - THURS 4:50 | 7:10 | 9:35
FRI 4:50 | 7:10 | 9:35 | 11:55
SAT 2:30 | 4:50 | 7:10 | 9:35 | 11:55
SUN & HOL. 2:30 | 4:50 | 7:10 | 9:35

Blue Jasmine
CATE BLANCHETT | ALEC BALDWIN
MON - THURS 9:10
FRI - SAT 9:10 | 11:30
SUN & HOL. 9:10 PG-13

RIDDICK
VIN DIESEL | JORDI MOLLÁ
WITH DUTCH SUBTITLES
MON - THURS 4:10 | 6:45 | 9:20
FRI 4:10 | 6:45 | 9:20 | 11:55
SAT 2:00 | 4:10 | 6:45 | 9:20 | 11:55
SUN & HOL. 2:00 | 4:10 | 6:45 | 9:20

ZAMBEZIA
LEONARD NIMOY | ABIGAIL BRESLIN
MON - FRI 4:55
SAT, SUN & HOL. 2:50 | 4:55 G

GETAWAY
ETHAN HAWKE | SELENA GOMEZ
MON - THURS 7:00 | 9:15
FRI - SAT 7:00 | 9:15 | 11:30
SUN & HOL. 7:00 | 9:15 PG-13

PLANES
DANE COOK | STACY KEACH
MON - FRI 4:50 | 7:00
SAT, SUN & HOL. 2:40 | 4:50 | 7:00 PG

WE'RE THE MILLERS
JENNIFER ANISTON | JASON SUDEIKIS
MON - THURS 4:35 | 7:00 | 9:30
FRI 4:35 | 7:00 | 9:30 | 11:55
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Jordan Burroughs wins second world championship

PABLO GORONDI

Associated Press

BUDAPEST, Hungary (AP) — American Jordan Burroughs won his second wrestling world championship on Wednesday, defeating Iran's Ezzatollah Akbarizarinkolaei in the final.

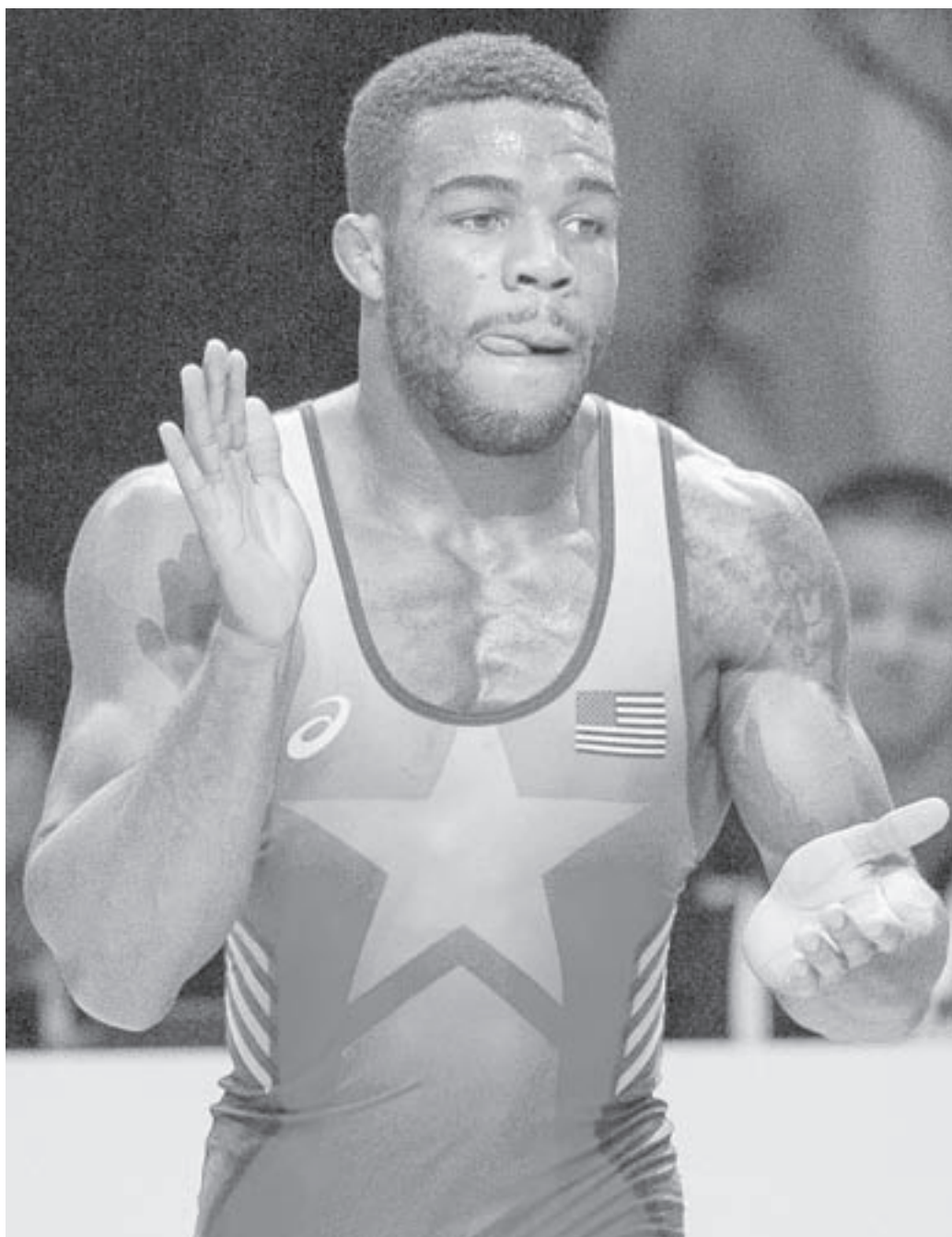
Burroughs, a gold medalist at the 2012 Olympics, extended his undefeated streak to 65 matches with a 4-0 victory over Akbarizarinkolaei in the 74-kilogram category at the Laszlo Papp Sports Arena in Budapest.

After the final, Burroughs revealed that he suffered a broken ankle while running sprints during training in Colorado Springs on Aug. 22 but was able to recuperate quickly after surgery the next day.

"I'm in awe right now," Burroughs said after the final. "This is definitely the biggest victory of my career."

Burroughs said he still had five screws and a plate in his left ankle to provide stability and was at 75-80 percent of his full strength when he arrived in Budapest for the world championships.

Burroughs complimented Akbarizarinkolaei for his effort. The Iranian, who also lost to Burroughs at the World Cup in Tehran in February, kept his ri-



val from scoring during the early stage of the match and Burroughs' four points against him were the fewest the New Jersey native scored in his five matches in the event.

"He definitely gave me my best test of the day but I was able to pull it out so I'm extremely happy," said Burroughs, who stayed home to recover and did not join the rest of the American wrestlers training together until this week. "The last time they saw me I was on crutches, now they're looking at me and I'm winning world titles. Amazing."

On his way to the championship, Burroughs also defeated opponents from Tajikistan, India and Azerbaijan. In the semifinals, his rival, Ali Shabanau of Belarus, was disqualified after cautions for repeated attacks to the face.

Burroughs, who won two NCAA championships at the University of Nebraska, was defending the title he earned in Istanbul in 2011. □

Jordan Ernest Burroughs of US celebrates after he defeated Ezzatollah Abbas Akbarizarinkolaei of Iran in the men's 74kg weight category final of the World Wrestling Championships in Papp Laszlo Sportsarena in Budapest, Hungary, Wednesday, Sept. 18, 2013.

Associated Press

Continued from page 18

"It would be hard not to give him the vote," Scott said of Mickelson. "Then he has three wins with a major, and Tiger has five wins, and Phil has the FedEx Cup. I think it's a pretty strong case to say 'Phil.' But if you feel like five wins is more impressive, you can put Tiger. I don't really know. I think you've got a strong case to argue for both."

Woods also knows this is a big week.

"This tournament has a lot of value to it," Woods said. "There are guys who have won a couple times, but they've had major championships in there. I've won five times. I think that this week has a lot to do with it. It's up for grabs for player of the year."

Woods already has won the award 10 times.

As for the 30-man field at

the Tour Championship, the points have been reset so that the top five seeds only have to win the tournament to capture the cup. Everyone else has a mathematical chance, though only two players out of the top 10 in the FedEx Cup won — Jim Furyk (11th seed) in 2010 and Bill Haas (25th) in 2011.

Woods nailed down the No. 1 seed with a strong season and a runner-up finish at The Barclays. He is followed by Deutsche Bank winner Henrik Stenson, Scott and BMW Championship winner Zach Johnson. Taking the fifth seed, without having won a playoff event, is Matt Kuchar.

And he didn't even know it. Kuchar figured he would be outside the top five after he finished up Monday at the BMW Championship, and only learned of his fortunes on the flight down to

Atlanta with Keegan Bradley.

"They were discussing Dustin Johnson was last man in at 30, so I asked if I could see his phone and just take a look-see of where everybody had finished," Kuchar said. "I was shocked when I saw I was No. 5 and I only got bumped one spot."

It got stranger when Bradley brought up the fact that a year ago, he was flying to Atlanta with Brandt Snedeker, who also went from No. 4 to No. 5 after the third playoff event. Snedeker went on to win at East Lake to go home with \$11.44 million (winning the Tour Championship is worth \$1.44 million)

"So I'm hoping that somehow there's some fort of fate there, with Keegan being the middleman," Kuchar said.

This is the third time Woods



Phil Mickelson watches his tee shot on the 10th hole during the second round of the BMW Championship golf tournament at Conway Farms Golf Club in Lake Forest, Ill., Friday, Sept. 13, 2013.

Associated Press

has been the No. 1 seed going into the Tour Championship, and he won the FedEx Cup the previous two times. His second cup was in 2009, and that re-

mains the last time the top seed at East Lake won the \$10 million prize.

That's also the last time Woods won PGA Tour player of the year. □

'Whale Spotting' app seeks to reduce ship strikes

JASON DEAREN

Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — U.S. federal officials trying to reduce the number of whales that are struck and killed by ships sailing in and out of San Francisco Bay are testing a new smartphone application that could help locate the mammals more accurately.

The "Whale Spotter" app would allow sailors, fishermen and marine scientists who spot whales to plot their location on an interactive map. The maps created could then be used by National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and U.S. Coast Guard officials to recommend different vessel routes.

John Berge, vice president of the Pacific Merchant Shipping Association, said the shipping industry supported development of the app as another tool in a new arsenal being created to reduce the strikes.

"Everybody agrees that we need to try to keep whales and ships separated physically to the great-

est extent possible," Berge said. "Right now, we know where the ships are, but we don't know where the whales are."

The app is the latest development in a collaboration between shipping companies, government officials and scientists to reduce whale strikes. In June, large vessels traveling to ports on the California coast began using new traffic lanes developed to move ships away from whales.

In the busy ports of the San Francisco Bay Area, more than 7,300 large ships head through the Golden Gate each year. Just outside the bay, whales often swim along the continental shelf, where their food supply is plentiful.

Several dead whales, including an endangered fin whale, suspected to have been killed by ship strikes have washed ashore this year in the Bay Area.

The idea behind the app is to create a network of whale spotters off California's coast so the marine mammals can be tracked,

in real time, as they migrate. The weeklong tests of the app beginning Saturday will occur in the Cordell Bank and Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuaries.

Marine scientists working on the Farallon Islands off San Francisco's coast already have been inputting whale sightings from their unique perch, from where the westernmost shipping lanes can be seen.

A big hurdle for the app is that cellphone coverage at sea is spotty at best, so data may be delayed to a point where it's not immediately helpful.

But GPS on phones is being constantly tracked by satellite, so the phone's location can be determined off of that, said Jaime Jahncke, director of Point Blue's California Current Research Group, which provides whale location data to maritime officials.

Also, information about whale location is stored on the phone's hard drive, which can be uploaded back at port. □



This screen grab provided by Point Blue Conservation Science shows their new whale watching app on an iPad.

Associated Press

McAfee: Collins most 'dangerous' celeb search



In this Aug. 22, 2013 file photo, English actress Lily Collins attends the premiere of the film "Cazadores de Sombras, Ciudad de Huesos" ("The Mortal Instruments, City of Bones") at Callao cinema in Madrid, Spain.

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — If you're curious about Lily Collins and head to the Internet to find out, beware — McAfee has ranked the actress as the most dangerous celeb to search for online.

Collins — who starred in movies such as "Mirror, Mirror" and "The Mortal Instruments: City of Bones" — posed the biggest risk of landing on a malicious site, according to the computer security company; last year Emma Watson

topped the list.

Female celebrities were the overwhelming lure to malware. Avril Lavigne, Sandra Bullock, Kathy Griffin and Zoe Saldana rounded out the top five; "Mad Men" star Jon Hamm was the only man in the top 10. A person could be led to malware after doing a general search and clicking on dubious links, but risks increased when searchers added phrases like "free apps" or "nude photos." □

Prosecutors urge use of iPhone anti-theft system

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Top prosecutors in San Francisco and New York and the mayor of London are urging iPhone users to download Apple's new iOS 7 operating system that includes a feature they believe might curb a rash of thefts.

San Francisco District Attorney George Gascon, New York Attorney General Eric Schneiderman and London Mayor Boris Johnson said in a joint statement Wednesday they believe the iOS 7's activation lock is an important step toward ending iPhone thefts worldwide.

They said the feature is available on the newest iPhone and can also be downloaded on older

models, but it's too early to know how effective it will be in preventing thefts.

The lawmakers have been pressuring leading manufacturers to create anti-theft features, including a kill switch to render smartphones inoperable. □



An iPhone with iOS 7 software, left, is displayed next to an iPhone with the older iOS 6 operating system, Tuesday, Sept. 17, 2013 in New York. Much of the new iOS 7 software is about cosmetic changes. The three-dimensional magazine rack in the Newsstand app is gone, for instance.

Associated Press

Stock market hits new highs as Fed keeps stimulus

KEN SWEET

AP Markets Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — The U.S. stock market hit a record high Wednesday as investors cheered the Federal Reserve's surprise decision to keep its economic stimulus program in place. Stocks traded slightly lower throughout the morning, but took off immediately after the Fed's decision in the early afternoon. Bond yields fell sharply — their biggest move in nearly two years. The price of gold had its biggest one-day jump in four years as traders anticipated that the Fed's decision might cause inflation.

Fed policymakers decided to maintain the central bank's \$85 billion in monthly bond buying, a program that had been in place in one form or another since late 2008. The program is designed to keep interest rates low to spur economic growth and has been a driver of the four-and-a-half-year bull run in stocks. While the U.S. economy appeared to be improving, the bank's policymakers "decided to await more evidence that progress will be sustained" before deciding to slow the bond purchases. The bank also cut its full-year economic outlook for this year and next. Stock traders shrugged off the Fed's dimmer outlook and focused on the prospect of continued stimulus.

The S&P 500 surged 20.76 points, or 1.2 percent, to 1,725.52, slicing through its previous all-time high of 1,709.67 set on Aug. 2.

The Dow Jones industrial average jumped 147.21 points, or 1 percent, to 15,676.94, also above its previous record high of 15,658.36 from Aug. 2.

The Nasdaq composite rose 37.94 points, 1 percent, to 3,783.64.

The fate of the Fed's economic stimulus program has been the biggest question on Wall Street for months. It was widely expected that the Fed would cut back on its bond buying at the September meeting.



Volaris CEO Enrique Beltranena, center, is joined by members of the company's shareholders and management team, rings the New York Stock Exchange opening bell, to celebrate the Mexican company's IPO, Wednesday, Sept. 18, 2013. The stock market hit a record high Wednesday after the Federal Reserve's surprise decision to keep its economic stimulus in place.

(AP Photo/Dario Cantatore)

Tom di Galoma, a bond trader at ED&F Man Capital, said he was "completely shocked" that the Fed decided to wait. Some investors advised caution, even as the stock market hit all-time highs.

While the Fed's decision is positive for the market in the short term, "investors need to take a step back and consider the idea that maybe the U.S. economy is on weaker footing than

we originally thought," said Marc Doss, regional chief investment officer for Wells Fargo Private Bank.

Bond prices also rose sharply, sending yields lower. The yield on the 10-year Treasury note fell to 2.68 percent from 2.87 percent a minute before the Fed released its statement. It was a rush into bonds not seen since October 2011. The yield on the 10-year Treasury note is a benchmark for many kinds

of lending rates, including home mortgages.

As bond yields plunged, investors snapped up stocks that tend to pay richer dividends, such as utilities. The Dow Jones utility average jumped 3 percent, its best day in two years.

Stocks of home builders also rose as investors speculated that the Fed's pledge to keep interest rates low would continue to benefit the housing market. Pulte

Homes, Hovnanian and Toll Brothers were up more than 5 percent each, while D.R. Horton jumped nearly 7 percent. The price of gold jumped \$55, or 4 percent, to \$1,364 an ounce.

In June, Fed Chairman Ben Bernanke laid out a possible timetable for easing up on the bond purchases, and pledged to end them by the middle of 2014, if the economy continued to improve. □

Bernanke: No fixed schedule for slowing bond buys

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke said Wednesday there is "no fixed schedule" or "magic number" for when the U.S. central bank will start to slow or end its bond purchases.

During a news conference after the meeting, Bernanke said the Fed could still reduce the \$85-billion-a-month in bond purchases later this year. But

he said that hinges on the economy showing sustained improvement. And he clarified that the program won't necessarily end when unemployment reaches 7 percent.

"What we will be looking at is the overall labor market situation, including the unemployment rate but other factors as well. There is no magic number," Bernanke said.

The Fed said after its two-

day policy meeting that it will continue to buy bonds at the current pace while it awaits conclusive evidence that the economy is strengthening.

The bond purchases are intended to keep long-term borrowing rates low to boost spending and economic growth.

Since the bond purchases began a year ago, the unemployment rate has fallen to 7.3 percent, the

lowest since 2008. Yet the rate has dropped in part because many people have stopped looking for work and are no longer counted as unemployed. Bernanke acknowledged that the drop in the so-called "labor force participation rate" has understated the amount of "true unemployment" in the economy. Still, he says several other measures of the job market show progress. □

U.S. CEOs less optimistic on the economy

JOSEPH PISANI
AP Business Writer
NEW YORK (AP) — U.S. chief executives are less optimistic about the economy, according to a survey released Wednesday. The survey also indicates that disagreements over the 2014 budget and raising the debt ceiling in Washington are making them cautious about hiring. The Business Roundtable said that its quarterly index, which measures the economic outlook of CEOs from the largest U.S. companies, fell to 79.1 in the third quarter from 84.3 in the previous quarter. Any reading above 50 suggests expansion. The group said that 50 percent of the CEOs surveyed said the stalemate in Washington is having a negative impact on their plans for hiring additional employees over the next six months. Of the CEOs surveyed, 32 percent said that they expect to increase hiring in the next six months. That's unchanged from the survey in the previous quarter. Forty-four percent said that there will be no change in their hiring plans, up from 42 percent in the second quarter. And 24 percent said that they expect to decrease hiring, down from 26 percent in the previous quarter. "While U.S. business performance remains strong, as evidenced by robust recovery in the automotive sector, business leaders still see headwinds preventing a more sustained, robust recovery," said Jim McNerney, chairman of the Business Roundtable, in a statement. McNerney is also president, chairman and CEO of The Boeing Co., the aircraft manufacturer. The CEOs surveyed said that they expect 2013 gross domestic product to grow at a 2.2 percent annual rate, matching expectations reported in last quarter's survey. □

US builders boost single-family home construction

C. S. RUGABER
AP Economics Writer
WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. builders started work in August on the most single-family homes in six months and requested permits to build even more in future months. The figures suggest housing remains a driver of economic growth, despite higher mortgage rates. Builders increased construction of single-family homes 7 percent last month to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 628,000, the

Commerce Department said Wednesday. That's the fastest rate since February. And they sought 627,000 permits for future single-family homes, 3 percent more than July and the best pace since May 2008. Overall, builders broke ground last month on houses and apartments at an annual rate of 891,000. That's up from a rate of 883,000 the previous month. The gain in single-family homes was offset by a decline in volatile demand for

apartments. Total permits fell to a rate of 918,000 from 954,000 in July, also because of a decline in apartments. The longer-term trend is also positive: Housing starts are 19 percent higher than a year ago. The housing market has been recovering steadily over the past year, helped by lower mortgage rates and steady job growth. The gains have contributed to economic growth at a time when consumers and busi-

nesses have spent more cautiously. But mortgage rates have risen more than a full percentage point since early May. Some economists say higher rates may be starting to slow the recovery's momentum. In July, new-home sales dropped to the lowest level in nine months. Mortgage rates could rise even further if the Federal Reserve decides Wednesday to slow its \$85 billion-a-month bond purchase program. □

FedEx says quarterly profit up 7 percent

DAVID KOENIG
AP Business Writer
DALLAS (AP) — FedEx Corp. boosted quarterly profit by 7 percent this summer despite a dip in revenue at its express-delivery unit, and it will raise prices on many U.S. shipments in January. The weak global economy is still creating turbulence in FedEx's air-shipment business. But its ground-shipping unit continues to churn out strong profit — operating income was twice that of the express business. FedEx said Wednesday that it earned \$489 million in the June-through-August quarter, which topped analysts' expectations. Shares of FedEx rose \$2.78, or 2.5 percent, to \$113.46 in morning trading after hitting \$115.52 earlier in the session — a 52-week high. They began the day up 21 percent so far this year and are approaching their highest price since early 2007, before the recession. FedEx said that it will raise U.S. express-shipping rates by an average of 3.9 per-

cent on Jan. 6. Prices for ground shipments in 2014 will be announced later this year; the freight segment imposed a 4.5 percent rate hike in July.

which would be between \$6.63 and \$7.01. Analysts surveyed by FactSet expect \$6.97 per share. "We remain confident in our full-year earnings out-

unit's revenue was flat in the August quarter. Graf said the company was still committed to its goal of boosting the unit's operating profit by \$1.6 billion by the end of May 2016. FedEx continued to see a decline in international priority deliveries as customers shift to slower but less-expensive shipping options, including ocean freight. This trend has been noticeable in shipments of consumer electronics from Asia, and FedEx has responded by reducing air cargo capacity between Asia and the United States. Company executives portrayed the shift in customer demand as an opportunity, not an albatross. They said international economy-express shipping grew 15 percent from a year earlier. FedEx says international economy shipments under 150 pounds are usually delivered within five business days, while priority shipments take one to three days — typically next-day in the U.S. □



A FedEx cargo planes comes in for a landing at the Juneau International Airport in Juneau, Alaska. FedEx said Wednesday, Sept. 18, 2013 that its quarterly profit is up 7 percent despite a dip in revenue in its FedEx Express unit, and it will raise prices in January.

(AP Photo/Michael Penn)

The company left unchanged its forecast for full-year profit in the fiscal year that ends in May 2014. It expects earnings per share to rise between 7 percent and 13 percent,

look despite tepid global economic growth," said chief financial officer Alan Graf. Express deliveries account for 60 percent of the company's revenue, but that

Blankfein discusses Goldman's support of SAC Capital

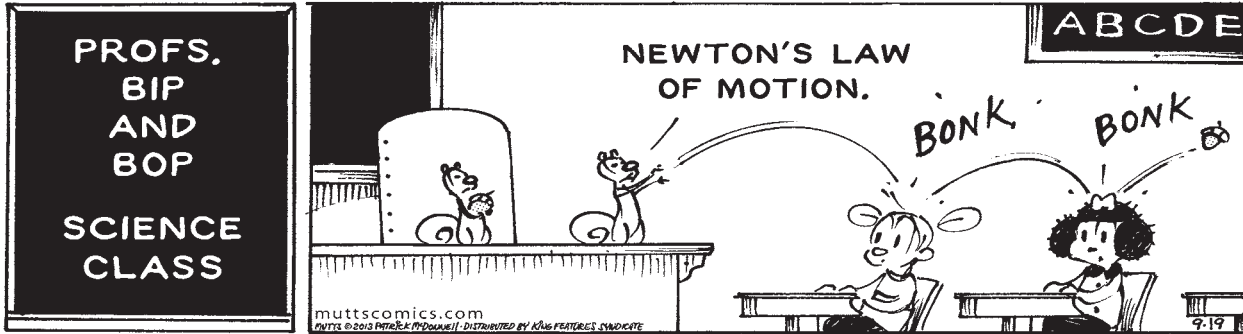
PETER LATTMAN
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Just a few days after the indictment of the hedge fund SAC Capital Advisors on insider trading charges, Gary Cohn, the president of Goldman Sachs, appeared on CNBC and issued a public statement of support for the firm. "They're an important client to us; they have been

an important client to us," Cohn said in late July. "We continue to trade with them, and they're a great counterparty." Though virtually all of SAC's clients have asked to withdraw their money from the fund, the firm has survived for two main reasons. First, nearly two-thirds of the \$15 billion that the firm had at the start of the year — about

\$9 billion — belongs to Steven A. Cohen, the owner of SAC, and his employees. And second, Wall Street banks have all continued to trade with SAC and finance its operations. On Wednesday morning, Andrew Ross Sorkin interviewed Goldman's chief executive, Lloyd Blankfein on CNBC, asking him about the decision to keep SAC

as a client. "Well, they've been indicted, they haven't been convicted," said Blankfein, a Harvard Law School graduate who practiced law for several years before pursuing a career on Wall Street. He added that if Goldman and the other banks had withdrawn their support, it would have destroyed the firm. □

Mutts



6 Chix



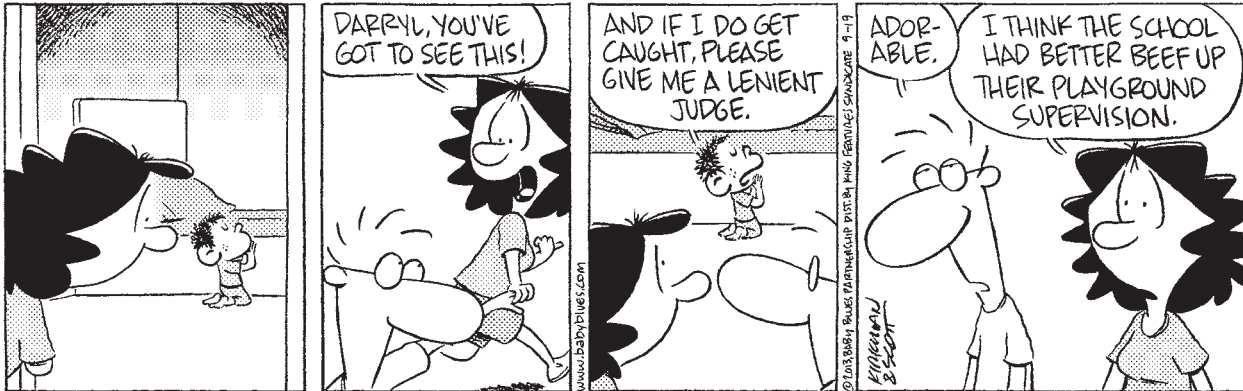
Blondie



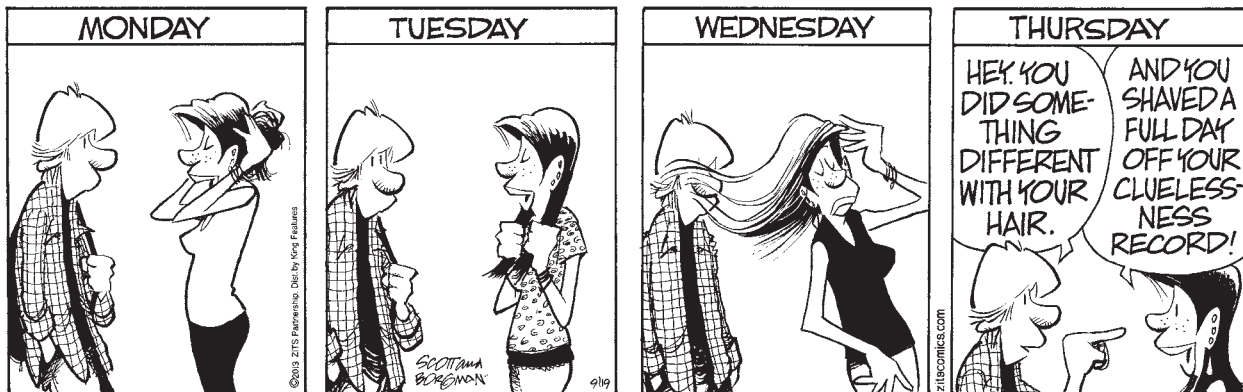
Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

9		4			1	3		
	3				4		1	2
							6	
		6		9	7			
			5	2		4		
		7						
6	8	2		3			9	
		5	1			7		6

Difficulty Level ★★

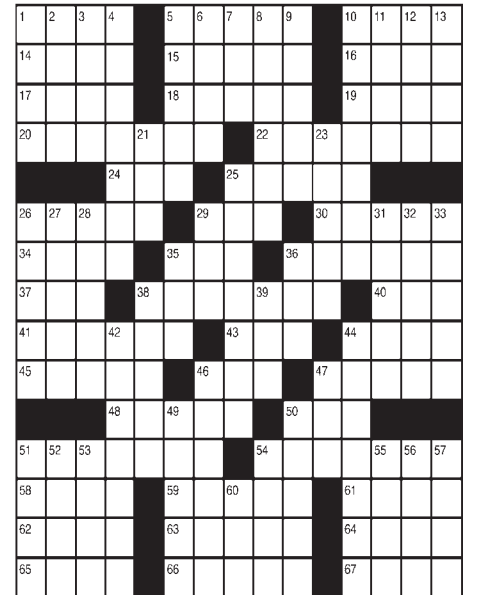
9/19

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

7	6	5	2	9	4	8	3	1
1	9	2	8	3	7	4	6	5
8	4	3	5	6	1	2	7	9
5	7	9	3	4	8	6	1	2
3	8	1	6	2	9	7	5	4
4	2	6	7	1	5	3	9	8
6	1	7	9	8	2	5	4	3
9	5	8	4	7	3	1	2	6
2	3	4	1	5	6	9	8	7

ACROSS

- 1 Basketball's ___ Bryant
- 5 Good buys
- 10 Look for
- 14 ___ if; although
- 15 Tiny bit of land in the sea
- 16 Sort; variety
- 17 Close by
- 18 Backbone
- 19 Harness strap
- 20 Hooky player's offense
- 22 Hot sauce
- 24 ___ station; refueling stop
- 25 Postponement
- 26 Like melted marshmallows
- 29 Male child
- 30 ___ out; extend one's arm
- 34 Show-offs
- 35 Lung contents
- 36 Water parted by Moses
- 37 "You ___ what you eat"
- 38 ___ to; against
- 40 Actor Holbrook
- 41 Make invalid
- 43 ___-Mex; south-west cuisine
- 44 In case
- 45 Adjust to changes
- 46 That woman
- 47 Misplaces
- 48 Energetic
- 50 Felt hat
- 51 Woolgatherer
- 54 Bump, as a TV show in order to air another
- 58 Mister, in Berlin
- 59 Eagle's nest
- 61 Ark builder
- 62 Egg on
- 63 Actor Michael
- 64 No longer here
- 65 Saw or wrench
- 66 Millay & Ferber
- 67 Border



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

9/19/13

Wednesday's Puzzle Solved

CUR	RIDER	DIET
ONES	ERODE	ENVY
DINE	VOLGA	SNIP
TORMENTED	ISLE	
MARS	ITS	
OPPOSE	TREATISE	
ROANS	FEAST	SEA
ALPS	SLANT	BING
LIE	APART	RINSE
SORORITY	LINGER	
PER	GOOD	
DAME	INSISTENT	
OVEN	TEARS	ROOM
DIME	EAGLE	YORE
ODOR	DRESS	NOW

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9/19/13

DOWN

- 1 Clark ___; alias for Superman
- 2 Think ___; ponder
- 3 Boyfriend
- 4 Angers
- 5 Compact ___; CDs
- 6 Make out
- 7 Ms. MacGraw
- 8 Of a pre-Easter church season
- 9 Take illegally
- 10 Went off course
- 11 Optometrist's concerns
- 12 "Beowulf" or "Paradise Lost"
- 13 Casino game
- 21 Anti's vote
- 23 Exposed
- 25 Oz visitor
- 26 African nation
- 27 Rowed
- 28 Fraternity letter
- 29 Use a straw
- 31 Sooty residue
- 32 Discontinue
- 33 Stops walking
- 35 Hairy as an ___
- 36 Harrison or Reed

- 38 Furry swimmer
- 39 Look at
- 42 Clothing
- 44 Cough drop
- 46 Jam or jelly
- 47 Actress Jamie
- 51 Close
- 52 Long sandwich
- 53 Thus
- 54 ___ colada
- 55 Disposition
- 56 Sudden pain
- 57 You, biblically
- 60 ___ Tin Tin

Coal's future darkens around the world

JONATHAN FAHEY

AP Energy Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — The future of coal is getting darker. Economic forces, pollution concerns and competition from cleaner fuels are slowly nudging nations around the globe away from the fuel that made the industrial revolution possible.

The U.S. will burn 943 million tons of coal this year, only about as much as it did in 1993. Now it's on the verge of adopting pollution rules that may all but prohibit the construction of new coal plants.

And China, which burns 4 billion tons of coal a year — as much as the rest of the world combined — is taking steps to slow the staggering growth of its coal consumption and may even be approaching a peak.

Michael Parker, a commodities analyst at Bernstein Research, calls the shift in China "the beginning of the end of coal." While global coal use is almost certain to grow over the next few years — and remain an important fuel for decades after that — coal may soon begin a long slow decline.

Coal has been the dominant fuel for power generation for a century because it is cheap, plentiful, and easy to ship and store. But it emits a host of pollution-forming gases and soot particles, and double the greenhouse gas emissions of its closest fossil fuel competitor, natural gas.

Now utilities are relying more on natural gas to generate electricity as discoveries around the world boost the fuel's supplies. The big, expanding economies of China and India are building more nuclear and hydro-electric power plants. Renewable energy sources such as wind and solar, while still a small fraction of the global energy mix, are growing fast as they get cheaper.

And a greater emphasis on efficiency is tempering global growth in electricity demand.

In the U.S., coal produc-



In this Wednesday, July 31, 2013, file photo, a worker levels the coal on a freight train in Taiyuan in northern China's Shanxi province. Coal has been the dominant fuel for power generation for a century because it is cheap, plentiful, and easy to ship and store. But it emits a host of pollution-forming gases and soot particles, and double the greenhouse gas emissions of its closest fossil fuel competitor, natural gas.

Associated Press

tion is on track to fall to a 20-year low of just over 1 billion tons this year. In the first half of the year, 151 U.S. coal mines that employed 2,658 workers were idled, according to a study conducted by SNL Energy, an energy-market data and analysis firm.

Later this week, the Obama Administration is expected to announce a rule that would cap the amount of carbon dioxide that new power plants are allowed to emit. The new limits appear to be impossible for coal plants to meet without carbon-trapping technology that analysts say would be prohibitively expensive — if it were even available commercially yet.

The coal industry and energy forecasters have long known that clean-air rules and competition from natural gas would make the U.S. a tough market for coal.

Now even that last great hope for coal may be fading. In a report published earlier this month Citibank analysts suggested that "one of the most unassailable assumptions in global energy markets" — that coal demand would continue to rise in China for the foreseeable future — may be flawed. Bernstein Research reached similar conclusions in a report

published in June.

Both reports predict coal demand in China will peak before 2020.

Bernstein researchers predict Chinese demand will top out at 4.3 billion tons in 2015 and begin to fall by 2016. China is far and away the most important country for the world's coal industry: Between 2007 and 2012, growth in Chinese coal consumption accounted for all of total global growth, according to Bernstein. Without China, world demand fell 1.2 percent over the period. But Chinese economic growth, which averaged 10 percent for the 10 years ended in 2012, is expected to slow to 5 percent to 8 percent over the next decade.

At the same time, the Chinese economy is expected to require less energy to grow, and other forms of generation such as nuclear, hydro-electric and renewables are elbowing into coal's turf.

And government officials are responding to public outcry over China's notoriously unhealthy air. Last week Chinese authorities announced they would ban new coal fired power plants from three important industrial regions around Beijing, Shanghai and Guangzhou.

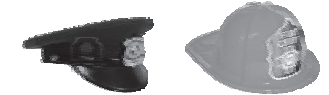
DOCTOR ON DUTY

Oranjestad

Dr. Thuis

EMERGENCIA

911



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NOORD	587-0009
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What a trip: Timothy Leary's files go public

ULA ILNYTZKY

Associated Press
NEW YORK (AP) — A trove of Timothy Leary's files, much of it previously unpublished, could shed new light on the LSD guru, his controversial research into psychedelic drugs and the emergence of the '60s counter-culture. The New York Public Library, which acquired the vast archive for an undisclosed sum from the Leary estate in 2011, is making the material available for the first time Wednesday.



In this 1950s photo provided by the New York Public Library, Timothy Leary gives a lecture on his first book, "Interpersonal Diagnosis of Personality."

Associated Press

The archive "is the missing link in every attempt to piece together an account of research into Timothy Leary and the emergence of scientific research into psychedelic drugs and popular drug counter-culture," said Denis Berry, a trustee for the Leary estate. Leary, who coined the phrase "turn on, tune in, drop out," was one of the most polarizing figures of the counterculture. He advocated the therapeutic use of psychedelic drugs including LSD and psychedelic mushrooms. Allen Ginsberg, Abbie Hoffman, Jack Kerouac, Aldous Huxley and other noted figures frequently visited Millbrook Estate in upstate New York, where Leary continued to conduct his psychedelic experiments after being fired as a psychology lecturer at Harvard University. He spent several years in prison and lived in exile for several years in the 1970s. He died in 1996. The files, filled with never-published correspondence and manuscripts from leading scientific, artistic, literary and cultural fig-

ures of the day, "will force a reworking of the current narratives on Leary, his role in LSD research" and the counterculture, Berry said. The archive contains drug session reports, completed questionnaires and letters relating to the various organizations Leary formed to continue his drug research after Harvard, including the International Federation for Internal Freedom, Castalia Foundation and the League for Spiritual Discovery. Among the highlights is a 1975 letter he wrote from prison to "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest" author Ken Kesey in which he says, "I think the time has come for me to go public about what I've been doing and learning." John McWhinnie, a rare-book dealer who appraised the archive for the Leary estate, said in his report that the archive "details a program into psychedelic research that was akin to (Alfred) Kinsey's research into human sexuality." For now, the library has no plans to make the archive available online. □



The Orbital Sciences Corp. Antares rocket lifts off the launchpad at the NASA Wallops Island test flight facility in Wallops Island, Va., Wednesday, Sept. 18, 2013. The unmanned Antares rocket will carry 1,300 pounds of food, clothes and other items as part of this test flight to the International Space Station.

Associated Press

Second private company rockets toward space station

MARCIA DUNN

AP Aerospace Writer
A commercial cargo ship made its successful debut Wednesday, rocketing toward the International Space Station and doubling the number of NASA's private suppliers for the high-flying lab. Orbital Sciences Corp. launched its first-ever supply ship from Virginia's Eastern Shore, the departing point for a NASA moonshot less than two weeks ago. "Look out ISS, here we come," the company said in a tweet. The capsule named Cygnus — bearing 1,300 pounds (590 kilograms) of food, clothing and goodies for the astronauts — is due at the orbiting outpost on Sunday, following four days of testing. The Virginia-based Orbital Sciences is only the second business to attempt a shipment like this. The California-based SpaceX company has been delivering station supplies for more than a year under a NASA contract. "If you needed more tangible proof that this is a new

era of exploration, it's right here, right now in Virginia," NASA associate administrator Robert Lightfoot said at a post-launch news conference. Orbital Sciences' unmanned Antares rocket — named for the bright red star — blasted into a clear sky from NASA's Wallops Flight Facility. A test launch in April went well. So did this one, with a camera on the rocket providing dramatic views of the coastline. The entire commercial effort dates back five years. It was Wallops' second high-profile launch this month. On Sept. 6, the company took part in a NASA moonshot that dazzled skywatchers along the East Coast. Wednesday's late-morning liftoff, while at a much more convenient hour, was not nearly as visible because of the daylight. The rocket exhaust plume, at least, was visible from Washington, D.C. The three space station residents, circling 260 miles (418 kilometers) high, watched the launch via a live link provided by Mission

Control in Houston. "Great launch! Excited for Cygnus arrival on Sunday!" space station astronaut Karen Nyberg said in a tweet. She's expecting a fresh stash of chocolate. Nyberg and Italian astronaut Luca Parmitano will use the space station's robot arm to grab Cygnus from orbit and attach it to the space station. NASA is paying Orbital Sciences and Space Exploration Technologies Corp., or SpaceX, to keep the space station stocked after the retirement of the shuttles. The other countries involved in the station also make deliveries. The bigger SpaceX Dragon capsule, which is launched from Cape Canaveral, Florida, has the advantage of returning items to Earth. It parachutes into the Pacific off the Southern California coast. The Cygnus will be filled with station trash and cut loose for a fiery destruction upon re-entry, following a monthlong visit. That's how the Russian, European and Japanese supply ships wind up, too — as incinerators. □

Drugs, drink drive comic hero in 'Buzzkill'



This image provided by Dark Horse Comics shows Ruben, the protagonist in Donny Cates' and Mark Reznicek's "Buzzkill". Associated Press

MATT MOORE
Associated Press

For some heroes, power comes from the stars or a mutation or a secret experiment gone awry. The protagonist of Dark Horse Comics' "Buzzkill" just needs bottles of beer or lots of pills. The comic by writers Donny Cates and Mark Reznicek focuses on protagonist Ruben, whose blackout-infused drinking leaves him with blood on his hands and a drive to stay sober. But sobriety is just what his enemies want, so Ruben must drink enough to keep his super strength at full force and his enemies at bay. Cates called the four-part mini-series — out Wednesday and illustrated by artist Geoff Shaw and colored by Lauren Affe — a sobering look at the relationship between power and addiction and "the very real consequences of both." "I don't consider the book that I'm writing to be about a superhero who is an alcoholic but an alcoholic who is a superhero who has done a lot of horrific

things," Cates said. The idea, Cates said, came from a night of drinking with Reznicek. Cates said "Buzzkill" is a serious meditation about fighting the evils of addiction. □

Patsy Swayze, dance teacher, mother of actor, dies

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Choreographer and dance instructor Patsy Swayze, the mother of late actor Patrick Swayze, has died. She was 86. Swayze died Monday night at her home in Simi Valley, publicist Annett Wolf said. No cause of death was given. Born in 1927, Patsy Swayze taught dance for decades, and her students included Tommy Tune and Debbie Allen. She taught at the University of Houston for more than a decade and also was a choreographer for the Houston Playhouse Center and the Houston Youth Symphony and Ballet

Company. She moved to Simi Valley in 1980 after choreographing the movie "Urban Cowboy." "It was rural, like Texas, and the three children still living at home could have horses and dogs," Swayze said of her new home in a 1991 interview with the Los Angeles Times. Her skills apparently rubbed off on her five children, who became actors and dancers. Patrick Swayze was well known for his leading roles in "Dirty Dancing" and other films, such as "Ghost." He died in 2009 at 57 after battling pancreatic cancer. □

Weinstein Co. to develop J.D. Salinger feature film



This image released by The Weinstein Company shows author J.D. Salinger, left, after the Normandy invasion with his fellow counterintelligence officers from the film "Salinger." Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Harvey Weinstein is developing a feature film about J.D. Salinger to follow a recently released documentary. The Weinstein Co. said Wednesday the biopic will focus on the author's life between his World War II service and the publication of "The Catcher in the Rye" in 1951 and will examine "the effects war can have on an artist." The film will be written by Shane Salerno, whose documentary "Salinger" opened in limited release Sept. 6. Salerno spent years researching the reclusive author for the documentary

and a recently published 700-page book, co-authored with David Shields. But Salerno's growing Salinger cottage industry has received poor reviews, with

critics calling the fame-obsessed "Salinger" documentary the kind of prying the author detested. The documentary expands to 62 cities Friday. □



In this June 10, 2013 file photo, Spike Lee attends the eighth annual Made in New York Awards in New York. Associated Press

Spike Lee to receive \$300,000 Gish Prize

JAKE COYLE
AP Film Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Spike Lee will receive the 20th annual Dorothy and Lillian Gish Prize, one of the largest and most prestigious awards in the arts. The prize is named for the silent film stars and carries a reward of \$300,000. Past honorees include Bob Dylan, Arthur Miller and Frank Gehry. The Gish Prize Trust announced the selection

Wednesday. Selection committee chairman Darren Walker says Lee was chosen "for his brilliance and unwavering courage in using film to challenge conventional thinking." In an interview Wednesday, Lee said he was familiar with Lillian Gish as an actress, but he hadn't heard of the award until he was called "out of the blue." The prize will be presented to Lee at the Museum of Modern Art on Oct. 30. □

Neil Patrick Harris rolls out Emmys red carpet

DERRIK J. LANG

AP Entertainment Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Neil Patrick Harris, host of the Emmy awards for excellence in the TV industry, isn't planning to leave the stage during Sunday's ceremony unless he's really, really gotta go.

"I'll be staying on stage the whole show — with a few exceptions," the second-time Emmy host teased after ceremoniously unraveling the red carpet Wednesday morning. "I thought about having a colostomy bag, but I thought that would not be good for the first few rows. It would be like a Gallagher show if things go wrong, so I may have to excuse myself for a minute or three a couple of times during the show."

Harris, whose "How I Met Your Mother" is entering its ninth and final season, said he doesn't feel like he has to prove himself after previously hosting the Emmy and Tony Awards.

"There's a lot of awards, so I thankfully don't have to



Ken Ehrlich, left, executive producer of Sunday's 65th Emmy Awards telecast, host Neil Patrick Harris, center, and Television Academy Chairman and CEO Bruce Rosenblum roll out the red carpet for the show during Emmy Awards Press Preview Day, on Wednesday, Sept. 18, 2013, in Los Angeles.

do a lot of work," he said. "I get to come up with some funny one-liners. If someone vomits, I get to joke about it, but there's not a lot of vomit. Charlie Sheen hasn't been on 'Two and a Half Men' for years." For the sixth year, the show

will be held at the Nokia Theatre in downtown Los Angeles. The massive red carpet — more like a red sidewalk, really — will canvass the entire plaza across the street from the Staples Center for Sunday's TV extravaganza on CBS.

Harris said he's interested to see how programming from Netflix and other online streaming services will fare at the ceremony and beyond.

"I think it's really interesting to see how that's going to shape the way we watch

television," said Harris. "It questions commercials. It questions programming. They were worried it would flop. I got to do 'Dr. Horrible's Sing-Along Blog,' which is kind of like the first one of those, so I have a vested interest in those doing well." Inside the Nokia Theatre, stagehands were hard at work on preparing the set. The stage has been outfitted with six cubes that pivot up and down and serve as video screens.

Place cards on the chairs in front of the stage's zebra-wood stairs show that Jane Lynch and "Modern Family" stars Ty Burrell and Sofia Vergara are front-row center. Other nominees with front-row spots included Jim Parsons, Connie Britton, Kevin Spacey and Robin Wright.

Many of the seating arrangements in different parts of the orchestra section featured unique pairings: Michael J. Fox aside Elton John, Matt Damon next to Amy Poehler and Dylan McDermott alongside Bob Newhart. □

Associated Press



This Tuesday, Oct. 16, 2012 file photo shows Hilary Mantel, winner of the Man Booker Prize for Fiction, with a copy of her book 'Bring up the Bodies', shortly after the award ceremony in central London.

Associated Press

JILL LAWLESS

Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — The Americans are coming to storm Britain's literary citadel.

Organizers of the Booker Prize announced Wednesday that from next year authors from the U.S. — and around the world — will be

eligible to win the prestigious fiction award.

Prize trustees said that starting in 2014, the prize will be open to all novels written in English and published in Britain, regardless of the author's nationality.

Founded in 1969, the Booker has previously been

Booker Prize to admit American authors

open only to writers from Britain, Ireland and the 54-nation Commonwealth of former British colonies.

That has not kept the award — officially known as the Man Booker Prize after its sponsor, financial services firm Man Group PLC — from becoming one of the world's best-known literary accolades, one that carries both prestige and commercial clout. Past winners include V.S. Naipaul, Salman Rushdie, Margaret Atwood, Ian McEwan and Hilary Mantel.

Jonathan Taylor, chairman of the prize trustees, said the expanded prize "will recognize, celebrate and embrace authors writing in English, whether from Chicago, Sheffield or Shanghai."

"We are embracing the

freedom of English in all its vigor, its vitality, its versatility and its glory wherever it may be," he said. "We are abandoning the constraints of geography and national boundaries."

Organizers said they had considered setting up a separate U.S. prize, but rejected the idea for fear of "jeopardizing or diluting" the existing award.

Books will continue to be submitted by British publishers and reviewed by a panel of judges.

The changes don't affect the Man Booker International Prize, a lifetime achievement award handed out every two years and open to writers from around the world.

Among the six finalists for the 50,000 pound (\$78,000) prize this year are several

writers with strong U.S. ties, including Jhumpa Lahiri and Ruth Ozeki.

The winner will be announced at a ceremony in London on Oct. 15.

The Booker frequently attracts heated debate, and the expansion received mixed reviews from the literary world. Writer and broadcaster Melvin Bragg told the Sunday Times that it would mean "the Booker will now lose its distinctiveness. It's rather like a British company being taken over by some worldwide conglomerate."

But Irish writer John Banville, who won the prize in 2005 for "The Sea," told the BBC it was an excellent idea.

"But God help the rest of us," he added, "because American fiction is very strong indeed." □

The Man With The Pink Hair



THOMAS L. FRIEDMAN
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I was at a conference in Bern, Switzerland, last week and struggling with my column. News of Russia's proposal for Syria to surrender its poison gas was just breaking and changing every hour, forcing me to rewrite my column every hour. To clear my head, I went for a walk along the Aare River, on Schiffhaube Street. Along the way, I found a small grocery shop and stopped to buy some nectarines. As I went to pay, I was looking down, fishing for my Swiss francs, and when I looked up at the cashier, I was taken aback: He had pink hair. A huge shock of neon pink hair - very Euro-punk from the '90s. While he was ringing me up, a young woman walked by, and he blew her a kiss through the window - not a care in the world. Observing all this joie de vivre, I thought to myself: "Wow, wouldn't it be nice to be a Swiss? Maybe even to sport some pink hair?" Though I can't say for sure, I got the feeling that the man with pink hair was not agonizing over the proper use of force against Bashar Assad. Not his fault; his is a tiny country. I guess worrying about Syria is the tax you pay for being an American or an American president - and coming from the world's strongest power that still believes, blessedly in my view, that it has to protect the global commons. Barack Obama once had black hair. But his is gray now, not pink. That's also the tax you pay for thinking about the Middle East too much: It leads to either gray hair or no hair, but not pink hair.

Well, bring on the Grecian Formula, because our leaders will need it. My big take-away from the whole Syria imbroglio is that - with Europe ailing, China AWOL and the Arab world convulsing - for an American president to continue to lead will require more help from Vladimir Putin, because our president will get less help from everyone else, including the American people. Everyone is focusing on Obama's unimpressive leadership in this crisis, but for my money the two main players who shaped the outcome - in ways that would not have been predicted but will have huge long-term implications - were Putin and the American people. Obama got blindsided by both. What does it tell us?

The fact that Americans overwhelmingly told Congress to vote against bombing Syria for its use of poison gas tells how much the divide on this issue in America was not left versus right but top versus bottom. Intervening in Syria was driven by elites and debated by elites. It was not

a base issue. I think many Americans could not understand why it was OK for us to let 100,000 Syrians die in a civil war/uprising, but we had to stop everything and bomb the country because 1,400 people were killed with poison gas. I and others made a case why, indeed, we needed to redraw that red line, but many Americans seemed to think that all we were doing is drawing a red line in a pool of blood. Who would even notice?

Many Americans also understood that when it came to our record in the Arab/Muslim world since 9/11, we were 0 for 3. Afghanistan seems headed for failure; whatever happens in Iraq, it was overpaid for; and Libya saw a tyrant replaced by tribal wars. I also think a lot of people look at the rebels in Syria and hear too few people who sound like Nelson Mandela - that is, people fighting for the right to be equal citizens, not just for the triumph of their sect or Shariah. It's why John McCain's soaring interventionist rhetoric was greeted with a "No Sale." I also think the public picked up on Obama's ambivalence - his Churchillian, this-must-not-stand rhetoric, clashed with his "On second thought, I'm going to ask Congress' permission before I make a stand, and I won't call lawmakers back from vacation to do so." The bombing was going to be bigger than a "pinprick" but also "unbelievably small." It just did not add up. Finally, there was an "Are you kidding?" question lurking beneath it all - a sense that with middle-class incomes stagnating, income gaps widening and unemployment still pervasive for both for white- and blue-collar workers, a lot of Americans were asking: "This is the emergency you are putting before Congress? Syria? Really? This is the red line you want to draw? I'm out of work, but this Syria thing is what shall not stand?"

As for Putin, if he had not intervened with his proposal to get Syria to surrender all its chemical weapons, Obama would have had to either bomb Syria without congressional approval or slink away. So why did Putin save Obama? In part, no doubt, because he felt the only way he could save his client, the Syrian president, was by also saving the American president. But the bigger factor is that Putin really wants to be seen as a big, relevant global leader. It both feeds his ego and plays well with his base. The question now is: With the American people sidelined and Putin headlined, can we leverage Putin's intervention to join us in also forging a cease-fire in Syria and maybe even move on to jointly try to end the Iran nuclear crisis.

I agree with Obama on this: No matter how we got here, we're in a potentially better place. So let's press it. Let's really test how far Putin will go with us. I'm skeptical, but it's worth a try. Otherwise, Obama's hair will not just be turned gray by the Middle East these next three years, he'll go bald. □



Hard Truths About Hard Bodies



FRANK BRUNI
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I was steering my cart through Costco the other day, wondering whether to waddle to the aisle where they sell cashews by the quarter-ton or to the one with thousand-piece packs of chicken thighs, when an epiphany pierced the fog of my gluttony. Actually, two epiphanies. The first? I needed to have kids, four or five or better yet a baker's dozen. Only then could I take full advantage of the savings around me.

The second? Costco as much as anything else is why the land of the free and the home of the brave is also the trough of the tub o' lard, our exceptionalism measurable by not only our GDP but also our BMI. That's body mass index, and our bodies are indeed massive.

I don't blame Costco per se. I blame what it represents: an American obsession with size, with quantity, that manifests itself as surely in supermarkets and restaurants as it does on our highways. We drive minivans and sport utility vehicles; we rip into veritable feed bags of potato chips and wedge our steroidal Thanksgiving turkeys into refrigerators more capacious than some European cars. This doesn't redound to our benefit.

And while the notion that we weigh too much because we buy, order and eat too much may be obvious, it's increasingly obscured. Study after study and report upon report looks at more particular reasons for obesity and excess pounds, focusing on the edges and the aggravators of the problem instead of the flabby core. And the number and variety of these investigations, not to mention the prominent showcase we in the news media give them, create the impression that alchemy, not appetite, is our enemy, and that if we could just fine-tune our daily schedules, rejigger our protein-to-carbohydrate ratios or wallow sufficiently in fiber, all would be well.

It's as if we're micro-focusing on less daunting and less damning culprits to distract ourselves from the one that's most fearsome and difficult to change, which is the sheer volume of food that many Americans are accustomed to consuming.

In The Times alone over the last six weeks, I've read stories or blog posts about research that explored the effect of a proper breakfast on weight loss; the implications of gut bacteria on a person's tendency to be fat or thin; the impact that sleep deprivation can have on dietary cravings; the possible utility of strenuous exercise as an appetite suppressant; and the unhealthy food choices that a favorite sports team's defeat can cause.

The examination of how and why we overeat is like some full-employment scheme for physicians, nutritionists, scientists and professors, who have looked at the roles of alcohol, of additives, of peer pressure, of bribes. One book that landed on my desk recently posits that pollution is making us fat and traces the parallel rise in air conditioning and obesity.

But these experts haven't brought us clarity. We've been told that snacking is good and that it's not; that fruits and veg-

gies will save the day and that they won't; that more exercise means fewer pounds and that it makes no difference.

What I've seen with my own eyes and can intuit with common sense is more consistent and persuasive. For a few years I lived in Italy, where people are generally thinner than in America, and I learned that it's not because they walk all that much more (one popular theory) or smoke away their hunger (another). It's because they don't celebrate huge servings the way that Americans do, and don't pig out as much as a result.

The McDonald's near my office in Rome didn't supersize anything. I saw no roadside signs for all-you-can-eat buffets. I never encountered a "never-ending pasta bowl," à la the Olive Garden, nor a Denny's-style "grand slam." Italians are content with a base hit.

Such prompts and cues make a difference. In a famous experiment eight years ago, a Cornell University professor named Brian Wansink put stale (and presumably awful-tasting) popcorn in large buckets and in really large ones. Moviegoers who got the really large ones ate much more. The vessels goaded them to.

America is lousy with such vessels: the Big Gulp, the economy pack, the party size, two-for-one pizza deals, the Whopper, the Double Whopper, the Triple Whopper, Costco in all its bloated grandeur. They've taught us that volume equals value and established a dangerous baseline for what we consider a sane amount of food. And that's a bedrock truism that mustn't get lost amid a smorgasbord of other, wonkier insights, many helpful to a point, none erasing the importance of portion size. Yes, there are probably better and worse rhythms for daily eating; there are bad calories and good calories. The ones going into you may be sublime. Won't matter, if you rack up enough of them. □



SICILIAN SUMMER ON THE MAINLAND

A dish of spezzatino di agnello, a Sicilian lamb stew, with boiled potatoes.

(Fred R. Conrad/The New York Times)

DAVID TANIS

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I had planned to spend a week at the end of the summer on an island off the Sicilian coast. Sunny skies and blue waters were to be followed by a night or two in Palermo and a few days in the countryside visiting Fabrizia Lanza, director of the Anna Tasca Lanza cooking school, where the main activity is picking and cooking vegetables from the garden for every meal.

Alas, my summer whizzed by, and the vacation became an impossible mission. To console myself, I began to cook.

With farmers' market produce at its peak, I can approximate some remembered dishes from previous visits, and Fabrizia's cookbook "Coming Home to Sicily" fills in the blanks by giving actual recipes to follow. There is an unusual pesto sauce from nearby Trapani, made with basil, coarsely chopped almonds and ripe tomato. There are a zesty eggplant caponata and savory

baked eggplant involtini. Not so easy for a city cook to reproduce is a beautiful dish of artichokes roasted on glowing hot embers, but I am going to try.

The book is arranged by season, so the reader gets

too, most imbued with the scent of herbs and garlic. But they have a definite southern sensibility, strikingly different from northern Italian cooking. I found myself drawn to a simple stovetop lamb stew called



The ingredients for a dish of spezzatino di agnello, a Sicilian lamb stew. The simple stovetop stew, which takes about an hour to prepare, is made with with saffron, wine and fresh chopped mint.

(Fred R. Conrad/The New York Times)

a sense of a working Sicilian farm kitchen throughout the year, beginning with the first shoots of wild fennel in the spring, and all the attendant seasonal projects and rituals.

Of course, there are fish dishes, and meat dishes,

spezzatino di agnello, seasoned with only a pinch of saffron and a splash of wine, then showered with lots of chopped mint. Fabrizia cuts lamb shoulder into cubes to make this, but since my butcher had beautiful thick-cut shoul-

der chops, I decided to make mine with those.

Once assembled, this fragrant stew takes only about an hour to cook. It has a bright-flavored lightness that makes it ideal for these still rather balmy September evenings. I served it with plain boiled potatoes - nothing more was needed. While I will remember the summer of 2013 as the one I didn't spend in Sicily, the meals I've been cooking lately have had a distinctly Sicilian accent. This year, it seems the vacation is happening right in my own kitchen.

SICILIAN LAMB SPEZZATINO WITH SAFFRON AND MINT

Adapted from "Coming Home to Sicily" by Fabrizia Lanza

Time: 1 1/2 hours

4 pounds lamb shoulder chops cut 2 inches thick
Salt and pepper
1/4 cup olive oil
2 cups diced red onion
4 cloves garlic, minced
Pinch of saffron
2 tablespoons tomato paste
1 cup dry white wine

1 cup coarsely chopped fresh mint

1. Season chops generously with salt and pepper. Put olive oil in a wide deep skillet over medium-high heat. Lightly brown lamb on both sides, then remove and set aside. Lower heat to medium, add onion to pan and season with salt. Cook, stirring, until softened and lightly colored, about 5 minutes.

2. Stir garlic, saffron and tomato paste into onions and cook 1 minute. Add wine and simmer for 2 minutes, then return lamb to skillet. Add 4 cups water, just to cover meat, and bring to a boil. Put on lid, turn heat to low and simmer gently for about 45 minutes, until quite tender.

3. Remove lid and raise heat to a rapid simmer. Simmer until juices have reduced by nearly half and sauce has thickened somewhat (may be prepared ahead to this point). Taste and adjust seasoning. Just before serving, reheat and stir in chopped mint.

Yield: 4 to 6 servings